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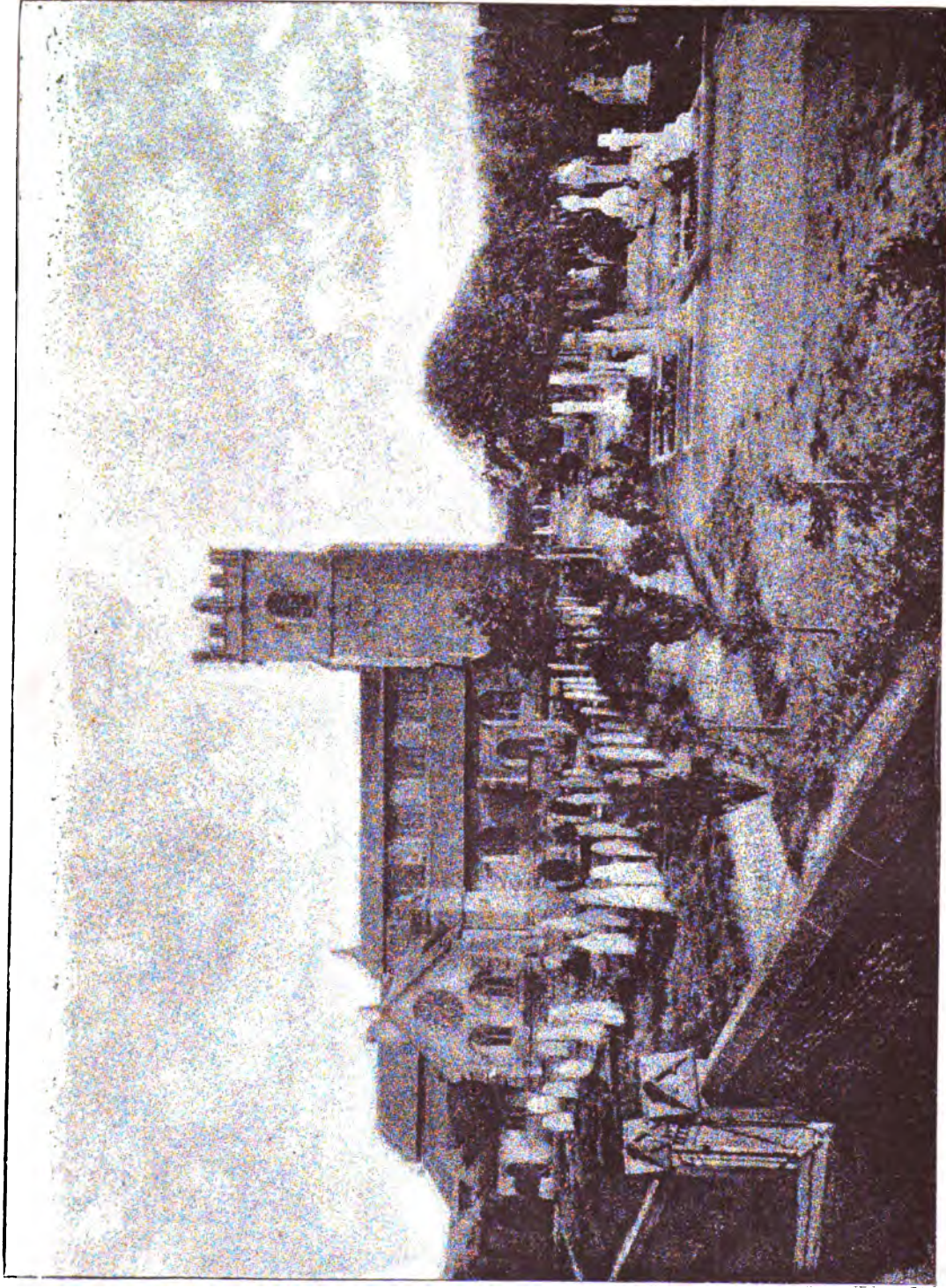
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WILMSLOW PARISH CHURCH.

NEW SERIES. 1886.

# CHESHIRE NOTES & QUERIES.

A Quarterly Journal of Matters Past and  
Present connected with the County Palatine  
of Chester.

.....  
Edited by E. W. Bulkeley, F. R. Hist. Soc.  
.....



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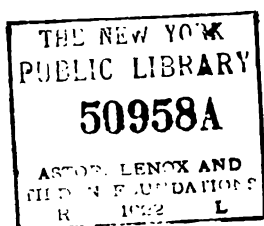
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## INTRODUCTION.

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72  
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Cheshire Notes, Vol. 6-9, A.S. vol. 1-7  
THE value and importance of local history, and of records of old forms of speech, manners and peculiarities, have been recognised only in comparatively recent times. The historians of the old-fashioned type thought it beneath their dignity to consult provincial chronicles, or to enquire into the origin and meaning of popular observances and customs which, in many cases, have lingered on from a remote period. An occasional note would find its way into a corner of the *Gentleman's Magazine*; sometimes an industrious antiquarian had the courage to publish the results of his researches in a costly volume, at his own expense. His friends accepted presentation copies, but took good care never to read them, and agreed in secret in regarding the author as a poor creature who was not quite right in his head. He was looked upon by his neighbours with good-natured indulgence and pity, and once in five years or so he was perhaps allowed to deliver a lecture at some local institution, when he was rewarded for his labours by seeing half his audience yawning dismally, and the other half asleep.

All this is now changed. The "muse of history" has condescended to put off her purple robes, and to go about among the "common people," asking about their ways of life, their quaint sayings, their songs, traditions, and proverbs. During the last half century, an immense amount of material has been gathered together in all parts of the country towards the preparation of an intelligible and a thorough history of the English people. The publication now in the hands of the reader is an example—and I, being merely an outside reader, may venture to say, an excellent example—of the new local literature. No history of Cheshire will henceforth have any claim to be considered complete which does not draw very largely upon the mine of wealth contained in the pages of CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES. The Parliamentary History of the County is given in several forms, and the present volume contains, among much other information, a list of the members who have represented the county from the year 1702 down to 1820, as well as a list of the candidates for the various divisions and boroughs in the general election of 1885. The treatment of the earlier period is comprehensive and instructive, for it includes a sketch of general political history as well as of the local circumstances connected with it. Another valuable feature of the volume is the numerous extracts given from Parish Registers and the records of townships. Even the reader in search of something that is curious or



entertaining will not turn over these particular pages in vain. He will find that many of the well known local names have been "household words" for at least three hundred years, and probably for much longer, and he will come now and then upon interesting little family notes, such as that concerning *PENELOPE DAVENPORT*, of the Bramhall stock, who in 1599 was married at Prestbury, when she was only *seven* years old. The history of that match would doubtless furnish an exciting plot for the novelist whose hard lot it is to stimulate the jaded appetites of an exacting public.

Among the contributions to the present volume which are likely to attract general notice are Mr GREENHALGH's "Recollections of Stockport." They have a special interest as embodying the personal recollections of one who was an inhabitant of the borough in 1828. The changes that it has undergone during that interval, and the progress it has made in its manufacturing industries, are well brought out in connection with reminiscences of some of the leading commercial families. The sketches of social life are singularly fresh and vivid, and altogether Mr GREENHALGH's "Recollections" will be found to present the lighter side of that admirable HISTORY OF STOCKPORT which we owe to the industry and care of Mr HENRY HEGINBOTHAM, J.P. Among other papers to which I may venture to direct the attention of the reader are those on Marple Hall and Judge BRADSHAW, on Old Tours through Cheshire, and on Cheshire Customs, Idioms, and Proverbs. The articles last referred to, from the pen of Mr ROBERT HOLLAND, Frodsham, are full of quaint sayings, some of which deserve a better fate than to be allowed to sink into oblivion.

The department of the work which deals with questions relating to various topics of interest has evidently been much appreciated by the public; but its usefulness might be greatly extended if the readers of NOTES AND QUERIES would assist the Editor in his efforts to throw light on the occurrences of the past. There are many who could answer the questions which are put from time to time if they would only take the requisite trouble, and to do so would not tax their time very heavily. I observe that the number of Queries and Replies is increasing, and I conjecture that the more rapidly it increases the better pleased will the Editor be, for an essential part of his plan is that readers who are acquainted with any department of local history should become contributors. In this way alone can such a publication fully accomplish its original design. The Editor cannot frame a history of old Cheshire, as the Germans evolve a system of philosophy, from "inner consciousness." I may be permitted to express the hope that his readers will co-operate heartily with him, and that the success of the work, already very striking, may be all that could be wished by its most cordial admirers, among whom I think it an honour to inscribe myself.

L. J. JENNINGS.

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In this Index more attention has been paid to the names of Persons and Places connected with the County than to the names of those to whom only incidental reference is made.

Names occurring more than once on the same page are only given once in the Index.

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*A snapper-up of  
unconsidered trifles.*



WINTER'S TALE,

Act iv., sc 2.

## Cheshire Notes and Queries.

[REPRINTED FROM THE STOCKPORT ADVERTISER.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1886.

### Notes.

#### PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY OF CHESHIRE.

v.

Our last paper closed with the somewhat tragic death of William III, just at the moment when he had declared war against the grasping ambition of France. It may not be out of place here to take a passing glance at the more striking features of our history as he left it. As a monarch William conferred the most solid advantages on this country, but at the same time he entailed evils of the most gigantic magnitude. He was the first monarch for many centuries who was a genuine friend to constitutional freedom, for to him we owe our religious as well as our civil liberty, and we should have had a still greater religious freedom if he could have had his own way. But the great fault of William was his ambition to be the arbiter of the freedom of the continental nations, and, as we know to our cost, this could only be done at a fearful expense. The National Debt at the commencement of Dutch William's reign was £664,263, which was left as a legacy to the country by Charles II. To this William added £17,730,439, which involved an additional annual charge of £1,271,017. From that date (1685) to the end of the reign of George II., during the whole of which time a succession of continental wars had been carried on, it is calculated that no less than 1,920,000 Englishmen had been slain in battle, and these have cost us up to the present time in principal and interest more than £3,500,000,000.

When Anne succeeded to the throne in 1702, she was in her thirty-eighth year. She was the second daughter of James II., by Anne Hyde, daughter of Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, and born in 1664, it is said, at Norbury, near Stockport, the old family residence of the Hydes of Hyde and Norbury. Be this as it may, at her accession, so complete had been the success of the Revolution that not the slightest voice was raised in favour of her half-brother, the Catholic Prince of Wales, and according to the terms of the Act of Settlement she succeeded to the throne without the least opposition.

In her first interview with the Privy Council, Anne assured them it was her firm intention to maintain the Protestant religion and to continue the policy of the late king, whose wisdom and moderation she intended to copy. The Commons, in reply, promised to support her with the necessary funds, and requested her to continue the preparations for the war with France, Marlborough being entrusted with the command of the allied forces. The Queen was crowned April 23, 1702, and on May 25 following she prorogued Parliament. Meanwhile a fierce battle was taking place in the Scottish Parliament on the subject of the union of the two nations. The Queen met her new Parliament October 25, which turned out to be so completely Tory as to carry all before it in that direction. From Cheshire the representatives returned were:—

1 ANNE.

Met August 20, 1702. Dissolved April 5, 1705,  
CHESHIRE—Sir George Warburton, of Arley, bart.  
Sir Roger Mostyn, of Bees ton, bart.

CHESTER—Sir Henry Bunbury, bart.  
Peter Shakerley, esq.

We now come to one of the most striking and meritorious acts of the reign of Anne—the grant of the first-fruits and tenths of the Church livings to the poor clergy. In pre Reformation times these had formed part of the Papal dues, but since that time the monies had been collected by the bishops and paid over to the Crown, and now amounted to £16,000 a year. According to Burnet, at whose instance it was carried out, there were hundreds of cures that had not £20 a year, and some thousands that had not £30. This bill was brought in February 7, 1704, and has ever since been known as "Queen Anne's Bounty."

It was during this year that Marlborough began his series of campaigns on the continent against the aggressive French, and which terminated in the decisive victory at Blenheim. For this he was awarded the splendid Crown estate of the manor and estate of Woodstock, that magnificent home of the Plantagenets, which Chaucer has sung and described with such topographical fidelity. Here Vanbrugh, himself a famous Cestrian, the architect of old Eaton Hall, Castle Howard, and Seton-Delavel—poet, also, and dramatist—was appointed to build the kingly palace of Blenheim.

#### 4 ANNE.

Met October 25, 1705. Dissolved April 11, 1708.

CHESHIRE—Hon. Langham Booth.

John Crewe Offley, of Crewe, esq.

CHESTER—Sir Henry Bunbury, bart.  
Peter Shakerley, esq.

The above were the Cheshire representatives in Queen Anne's next Parliament, and in this, as in the preceding Parliament, party feeling ran high. It was in this session that arose the political distinction of Whig and Tory; the name Whig being given to those who were for liberty without abandoning monarchy and friends of the house of Hanover; and Tory was the title by which those were distinguished who were for absolute monarchy, and friends of the Catholic house of Stuart. The Lords congratulated Her Majesty on the glorious victories of Marlborough, without at all noticing those of Sir George Rooke and Sir Cloudesley Shovel—who by the way is said to be a native of Levenshulme—who took Gibraltar from the Spanish, a conquest that was a far more substantial victory to England than that of Blenheim. In this Parliament was introduced the Act of Union, which enacted that from May 1, 1707, the two kingdoms of England and Scotland should be for ever united under the name of Great Britain, and that the whole island should be represented by one Parliament, in which Scotland should be represented by sixteen peers and forty-five commoners. This Act passed as a matter of course, the Whigs having a decided majority in this Parliament.

In the first Parliament of Great Britain, which met October 23, 1707, it became a question whether it should be deemed a new Parliament or not. On the one hand it was contended that it was a new Parliament, because it had been let fall and had been revived by proclamation; on the other hand, it was maintained that it was not a new Parliament, because it had not been summoned by a new writ, and the majority coincided in the latter view. It continued to sit until April 1, 1708, when it was prorogued and subsequently dissolved. Writs were issued for new elections, and a proclamation commanding the peers of Scotland to assemble at Holyrood on June 17, for the election of sixteen peers to represent them in the British Parliament. The new Parliament assembled November 18, and proved to be much in favour of the Whigs. The Cheshire representatives were:—

#### 7 ANNE.

Met November 18, 1708. Dissolved September 28, 1710.

CHESHIRE—Hon. Langham Booth.

John Crewe Offley, of Crewe, esq.

CHESTER—Sir Henry Bunbury, bart.  
Peter Shakerley, esq.

The Queen did not open this Parliament in person owing to the recent loss of her husband, Prince George of Denmark; but it was opened by a commission consisting of the Archbishop of Canterbury and others. One of the first parliamentary acts of 1709 was to pray the Queen to think of a second marriage. She had been the mother of thirteen children, all of whom had died young, and she had now reached the age of forty-five. She marked her surprise and displeasure at this request by replying that she had taken full precautions for the Protestant succession in the person of George of Hanover. The second session of this Parliament, which met November 15, was almost entirely engrossed with the trial of Dr Sacheverel, a high Tory divine who had preached a ranting sermon in which he inveighed bitterly against the tolerant spirit of the Bishops towards the Dissenters; characterising the Revolution of 1688 as an unrighteous change, and winding up with a furious invective against the Whig ministers. After a careful investigation of this injudicious impeachment on the part of the Whigs, Sacheverel was found guilty of exceeding the licence of preaching and was suspended for three years. This gentle sentence was regarded by the Tory party as a triumph, and in fact it was; for its almost immediate effect was the overthrow of the Whig administration. None, perhaps, felt the blow more keenly than the Whig family of Marlborough, at whose instigation the impeachment was commenced, for to them it was a clear indication that their power at Court was on the wane, and as the Queen had dismissed several of her Whig officers of State, appointing Tories in their place, there was no alternative but to dissolve Parliament, which was done accordingly, and

writs issued for a new election. "Thus," says one writer, "fell the most glorious, the most able, and we may add perhaps the most virtuous and patriotic administration that England had possessed since the days of Elizabeth."

9 ANNE.

Met November 25, 1710. Dissolved August 8, 1713.

CHESHIRE—Sir George Warburton, of Arley, bart.

Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.

CHESTER—Sir Henry Bunbury, bart.

Peter Shakerley, esq.

In the new Parliament which met on the above date there was a strong infusion of Tories sent up, but there was still also a strong party of Whigs. The Tories, however, were in power, and there was in consequence an entire revolution of opinion and of measures. Everything which had been applauded and encouraged under the Whigs was now to be decried; everything which had been kept down was to be set on high. The wars of Marlborough, which had humbled Louis XIV. and de'ended the Protestant interests abroad, were now to be denounced and deprecated. He who had won so many victories over the proud and grasping French monarch was to be systematically maligned, from all of which it was clearly evident that the Tories were bent on obtaining peace at any sacrifice; and in this they were supported by the general voice of the nation, which had at length become weary of war. Thus were brought about the negotiations which ended in the signing of the Treaty of Peace at Utrecht, exactly eleven years after the commencement of the war. Because he refused to sign it Lord Cholmondeley was dismissed from his office of treasurer of the household.

In this session was introduced and passed an Act ostensibly for the purpose of increasing the power of the Tory landlords in the House of Commons, and for diminishing that of the Whig supporters in the boroughs, which made it necessary that every candidate for Parliament in the counties should possess £600 a year in real estate, and for a borough seat £300 a year, and this law has lasted to our time, it only having recently been repealed.

Anne prorogued Parliament July 16 in a speech in which she congratulated herself on having concluded a long and bloody war, which she had inherited and not occasioned, and on August 8 dissolved Parliament by proclamation, its triennial term having expired. Burnet says it had acquired the name of the pacific Parliament, and winds up his own history with the remark that "no assembly but one composed as this was could have sat quiet under such a peace."

The elections for the new Parliament were now being carried on with all the fire and zeal of the two

parties. The Tories boasted of their successful efforts to stem the tide of expenditure for the war, to stanch the flow of blood, and restore all the blessings of peace. The Whigs, on the contrary, made the most of their opposition to the treaty of commerce with France, which they represented as designed to sacrifice our trade to the insane regard now shown to that country, and declared their zeal for the Protestant succession. Nevertheless, the country sent up a powerful majority of men who were by no means secretly growing more and more favourable to the return of the Catholic Pretender, the Chevalier St. George. Never, indeed, had the chances of his restoration appeared so great. In this, Anne's last Parliament, the Cheshire representatives were:—

12 ANNE.

Met November 11, 1713. Dissolved January 15, 1715.

CHESHIRE—Sir George Warburton, of Arley, bart.

Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.

CHESTER—Sir Henry Bunbury, bart.

Peter Shakerley, esq.

As the Queen's health was daily growing more precarious, the principal item of discussion in this Parliament was the subject of succession, and the supporters of the young Pretender and those of the house of Hanover increased their efforts to secure their ground. As a consequence there was a most active and incessant struggle going on round the throne to enable the head of either party to step into it the moment it became vacant. It was considered essential for the claimant to be on the spot, and therefore every means were used to induce the Queen to admit the Pretender as well as a member of the electoral house to court, but she would hear of neither. So matters remained until August 1, 1714, when the Queen died, frustrating all the plans of the Pretender and his friends, and George I. was proclaimed King of Great Britain and Ireland almost without a single murmur, as if the crown had passed in the most regular descent.

Like her sister Mary, and unlike her father, grandfather, and great grandfather, Queen Anne preferred the love of her subjects to the destruction of their privileges; and it ought never to be forgotten that she secured the comfort of numbers of the families of poor clergymen to every future generation by her "bounty," and conferred on the nation at large one of the greatest political blessings which it ever acquired—perhaps the most solid cause of its now wondrous prosperity—the union with Scotland.

From the number of elegant writers who were contemporaries with Queen Anne, her reign is called the Augustan age of literature. Amongst these, mention may be made of Pope, Swift, Congreve, Rowe, and Vanbrugh, poets; Steele and Addison, celebrated for



their excellent periodical publications; and Arbuthnot, who wrote on medical subjects.

So prompt and energetic were the arrangements adopted for securing the Protestant succession, that the friends of the Pretender were entirely thrown off their guard; and before they could recover their consternation at the suddenness of Queen Anne's death and the fall of Bolingbroke, Prince George of Hanover had landed in England, and been acknowledged by most of the Continental princes. His first care was to dissolve Parliament and to form a new Ministry almost entirely Whig. The new Parliament coincided entirely in the views of the Ministry. From Cheshire were returned:—

1 GEORGE I.

Met March 12, 1715. Dissolved March 10, 1722.

CHESHIRE—Sir George Warburton, of Arley, bart.  
Hon. Langham Booth.

CHESTER—Sir Henry Bunbury, bart.  
Sir Richard Grosvenor, bart.

In both Houses warm debates arose on the addresses, that in the Commons condemning in strong language the shameful peace which had been made at Utrecht after a war carried on at such vast expense, and attended with such unparalleled successes, but expressed a hope that, as this dishonour could not with justice be imputed to the nation, through his Majesty's wisdom and the faithful endeavours of the Commons, the reputation of the kingdom might in due time be vindicated and restored. In the address reference was made to the machinations of the Pretender and his friends, and went on to say: "It shall be our business to trace out those measures whereon he placed his hopes, and to bring the authors of them to condign punishment." This was the first direct announcement of the Ministers' intention to call their predecessors to account, and papers were at once laid before the House bearing on these important subjects, resulting in the impeachment of Lords Bolingbroke, Oxford, and Ormonde.

No sooner had the King taken possession of the throne than the partisans of the Chevalier de St. George, better known as the Old Pretender, set to work in their feeble endeavour to overthrow him. The clergy, especially, fanned the flame of discontent by their political sermons, and the Scotch, who were dissatisfied at the Union, ardently joined in the general outcry. Thus encouraged, the heir of the Stuarts determined on a descent in the Highlands where the Earl of Mar had (September 6, 1713) erected the Standard of the Chevalier, and had assembled an army of 10,000 men; but the death at this time of Louis XIV. of France, who had promised aid, and the decisive measures of the English Government, entirely blasted the hopes of the Pretender. His partisans were defeated on the same day (November 18) at Preston in Lancashire and

Sheriffmuir in Scotland, and he himself, landing at Peterhead on December 23, with a retinue of six persons, was only in time to witness the total discomfiture of his party, and was forced finally to take shelter on board a French vessel going to Gravelines.

In the midst of this excitement the time fixed by the Triennial Act for the dissolution of Parliament drew near; but the Ministers, fearing the effects of a general election in so unsettled a state of the public mind, determined to bring in a bill for repealing the Triennial Act (passed in 1694), and extending the duration of Parliament to seven years, it being alleged that frequent elections tended to promote party strife and greatly weakened the efficiency of that branch of the legislature, besides giving occasion to the intrigues of foreign potentates. This measure, known as the Septennial Act, was strenuously opposed by the Tories and the Ultra-Liberals in both Houses of Parliament, but it was finally carried in the Lords by a majority of 96 to 61, and in the Commons by 264 to 131, May 7, 1716.

One of the most prominent men in this Parliament was Mr William Shippen, member for Newton, near Warrington. He was the second son of the Rev. William Shippen, D.D., rector of Stockport from 1678 to 1693, and was born at Prestbury, near Macclesfield, July 30, 1673, of which parish his father was then rector. Educated at Stockport Grammar School and Trinity College, Cambridge, he was returned for Bramber, in Sussex, in 1707, and was a strenuous advocate of the Jacobite party. In this, the first Hanoverian Parliament, he was looked upon as the rising leader of the Tories, and is described by various writers as "The English Cato" and "The Inflexible Patriot," whilst Pope thus speaks of him:—

I love to pour out all myself as plain,  
As honest Shippen or downright Montaigne.

He published several political pamphlets, now of great interest, one being entitled "Three Speeches Against Continuing the Army," published in 1718. One of these, delivered in the House of Commons, December 4, 1717, resulted in Mr Shippen being committed to the Tower for some passages in it, and which will be found later on. "Another Speech Against Sir Robert W[alpole]'s Proposal for Increasing the Civil List Revenues,"—delivered July 3, 1727, and published the same year—went through three editions. He was also author of two political poems, entitled "Faction Displayed" and "Moderation Displayed," in which he satirised the Whig party at that time. He died May 1, 1743, and was interred at St. Andrew's, Holborn.

This session witnessed the resignation of Sir Robert Walpole, as First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer, when he joined the Opposition, and he was as violent in Opposition as he was able and zealous in office. Not content with that he joined him-

self to Shippee, Wyndham, Bromley, and the other violent opponents of the reigning family; so that Shippen, we are told, himself ere long ultimately said that he was glad to see that Walpole was no longer afraid of being styled a Jacobite. This session was closed very popularly with the act of grace. By it a whole crowd of political prisoners were liberated from their long confinement. The Lords Carnwath, Widdrington, and Nairn came out of the Tower; seventeen gentlemen lying under sentence of death in Newgate, and twenty-six in Carlisle Castle were liberated, and many others from the Leet, the Marshalsea, and from the custody of messengers. About two hundred of the prisoners taken at the battle of Preston were set free from Chester Castle, and all those in the castles of Edinburgh and Stirling.

In the third session of King George's first Parliament, application was made for an addition of 18,000 troops in consequence of the aspect of affairs abroad, and for the renewal of the Military Bill. On both these occasions Walpole and Shippen made a determined opposition, the former contending that 12,000 was enough, whilst Shippen became extremely eloquent against standing armies, and observed that the proposed augmentation of the army seemed "rather calculated for the meridian of Germany than of Great Britain; but it is the infelicity of His Majesty's reign that he is unacquainted with our language and constitution; and it is, therefore, the more incumbent upon the British ministers to inform him that our government does not stand upon the same foundation as that which is established in his German dominions." For these words, such was the loyalty of the House Shippen was committed to the Tower.

It was during this time that the mania for speculation was at its height, and the South Sea Bubble at the height of its popularity. This company in return for certain grants agreed to redeem the Government annuities and so pay off the National Debt. By one of those unaccountable manias which so frequently disturb the equilibrium of the money market, the stock of this company instantaneously rose to almost fabulous value. The shares which at the Christmas of 1716 had been at £126, by the end of August in the year following reached £1000. The consequence was, that when, four years later (1720) the fraud was discovered, a violent reaction took place, which almost produced a national bankruptcy, and only for the judicious policy of Walpole, Shippen, and others, which restored public confidence, no estimate can be formed of the evils which might have resulted to the Government and the nation. The rest of the time of this Parliament was taken up in the arrangement of the difficult business in connection therewith when it was finally prorogued and dissolved March 10, 1722. In the new Parliament the Cheshire representatives were—

8 GEORGE I.

Met October 22, 1722. Dissolved August 7, 1727.

CHESHIRE—Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq  
John Crewe, of Crewe, esq.

CHESTER—Sir Henry Bunbury, bart.  
Sir Richard Grosvenor, bart.

The Cheshire election for this Parliament took place April 4, 1722, when three candidates presented themselves, the third being the Hon. Langham Booth, who had sat in the last Parliament for the county.

In the early days of this Parliament one of the chief members of the Government and one intimately connected with this county of Chester came in for a large share of public notice. This was none other than Thomas Parker, Earl of Macclesfield, the Lord Chancellor. The Court of Chancery, in all ages a sink of iniquity, was at this time in its worst condition. The offices of masters in chancery were regularly sold to the highest bidder, and the masters as regularly took care to indemnify themselves by all manner of peculation. The estates of widows and orphans and the money of suitors were unscrupulously plundered. There was a loud outcry against these legal robberies, and especially against the Lord Chancellor, for his not only tolerating, but partaking in them. As the history of his life is a most interesting one, we make no apology for briefly recounting it in this place. Thomas Parker, Earl of Macclesfield, was born at Leek, July 23, 1666, where his father practised as an attorney. His mother was of a respectable Cheshire family, being the daughter of Colonel Robert Venables, of Wincham. He was educated at Newport Free Grammar School, and after a brief sojourn at the Inner Temple and Cambridge, was placed on the roll of attorneys, and began his professional career at Derby at the age of twenty. This he relinquished in order to resume his studies at the Inner Temple. Having been called to the bar in 1691, he was made serjeant and knighted in 1704. In the following year he became recorder of Derby, and represented that constituency in Parliament. His further progress was equally rapid; in 1710 he was made chief justice, and seven years later was raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Parker of Macclesfield. In 1718, he succeeded to the woolstack, and was created Earl of Macclesfield. Soon after the bursting of the South Sea Bubble, it was whispered that great frauds had been committed on suitors in the Court of Chancery, and that with the connivance of the Lord Chancellor. Under these circumstances, Lord Macclesfield was compelled to resign. He was formerly impeached in the House of Commons, and on May 6, 1725, his trial began. After a long and careful hearing he was found guilty, and was sentenced to pay a fine of £30,000, and to have his name erased from the list of Privy Councillors. Until the fine was paid, Lord

Macclesfield was confined to the Tower, where he remained a prisoner for six weeks, at the end of which time he had made arrangements for the payment of the fine. The King privately remitted a portion of the fine, and had promised that he would repay the whole amount, but had only refunded a very small portion when his (the King's) death took place. Lord Macclesfield lived seven years afterwards, but mixed no more public in affairs. According to Foss he spent his time between Sherburn Castle, in Oxfordshire, and London, where at the time of his death he was building a house in St. James's-square, afterwards inhabited by his son. According to Campbell, however, he is said to have retired to Derby, selecting in fact the very house where he commenced his professional career. The latter would almost appear as the most trustworthy, considering that he had been forced to part with nearly all he had in consequence of his speculations and consequent heavy losses on the discovery of the South Sea fraud. As a politician he deserves unqualified praise, for he was the steady, zealous, and consistent friend of civil and religious liberty. By Campbell he is characterised as one of the greatest equity judges that ever sat in the Court of Chancery. He married Janet, daughter of Charles Carrier, Esq., of Wirksworth, in Derbyshire, who brought him two children only, a son and a daughter. The son, George, as second earl, was a celebrated mathematician, and became president of the Royal Society. He it was that, in the year 1751, so ably assisted in carrying through Parliament the bill for reforming the calendar.

The remaining sessions of this the second and last Parliament of George I. passed on with little interruption, and call for no more remark until the King's death, which took place June 11, 1727, at Osnabruck, whilst on his way to visit his Hanoverian Kingdom, when he was succeeded by his son George, the Prince of Wales, then in his forty-fourth year. Ed.

#### FAIRY RINGS.

As many persons in this district are giving their attention to fungi, and as the subject of "Fairy Rings" is comparatively little understood, the following extract from a paper read by a high authority—Mr Worthington G. Smith—before the Essex Field Club, will be interesting to many:—

Every person who has walked in the summer over grassy hills, and through fields and woods, must have noticed fairy rings. Sometimes they present themselves in circles and curves of bare ground, at other the barren circle of ground has a rim of luxuriant grass outside; in some instances this circle or curve of dark rank grass has a third circle of fungi beyond its outer line. In a perfect fairy ring we have, then, starting from the centre, a ring of barren ground, a

ring of rank grass, and a ring of fungi. In some instances a fairy circle of fungi only is to be seen. Circles, curves, and quadrangles of rank grass or fungi are sometimes seen that are not fairy rings, and it will, perhaps, be better to mention and dismiss these spurious rings and other geometrical forms at once. For instance, anyone who has walked in open spaces in plantations must have frequently observed a ring of fungi encircling a tree, at a line on the ground indicated by the spread of the branches above. These growths are especially common in fir plantations. Something drops from the tree, some resinous or other substance that favours the growth of certain fungi, and they come up in an irregular ring at the drip of the tree where this substance has fallen. Such a ring is not a true fairy ring, and such a ring can never extend itself beyond the drip of the trees. Similar spurious rings, and sometimes quadrangles, may at times be seen around old hay and corn stacks, and even barns, at the place where moisture and decayed vegetable matter has dripped from the overhanging edge. Such lines of rank grass and fungi have nothing whatever to do with fairy rings. Sometimes an old horse may be tethered to a stake, and he walks round and round his hoofs may wear away the grass and make a circle of barren ground; but such a circle is not a fairy ring. In some places where moles disturb the ground, such disturbed ground is found occasionally to bear a crop of fungi; but a crop of fungi on a mole's run, whether curved or not, is not a fairy ring. Fairy rings, then, are not caused by haycocks, tethered animals, the dripping of trees and barns, circular fertilising exhalations from the earth, or electricity. That they are not caused by haycocks is proved by the frequency of true fairy rings on lawns opposite drawing-room windows, where haycocks are not allowed to ornament the scene. On the edge of the cliffs on the South Coast, numerous true fairy rings and semi-circles will be seen, the centre frequently on the very verge of the cliff, and the semi-circle inland. Such semi-circles prove that tethered animals do not cause fairy rings, for no owner of an animal would be such a lunatic as to drive a stake into the very edge of a chalk cliff, as at Beacly Head, and there tie his animal to it. Besides, some fairy rings are only six inches across, and what quadruped or insect could be tethered to make such a ring? That moles do not cause fairy rings is proved by the presence of the ring where moles are unknown, and on expanses of rock covered by only an inch or two of humus, where moles cannot exist, and never have existed. . . . As for the rings being caused by the tripping feet of fairies in a circling dance, few people now, unfortunately, believe in fairies. They have gone the way of the giants, dryads, gnomes, and wraiths, since

In Britain's tale, in Arthur's days,  
The midnight fairies danced the maze.

We could ill spare any of them, but in these times when even the youngest men are teaching us about the origin and evolution of the phenomena of nature, there is scant room for the fairies. The best known fungus occupant of fairy rings is the fairy king agaric or champignon (*marasmius oreades*), termed in the older botanical books *agaricus oreades*. It was termed *marasmius* from the habit possessed by all the species of drying up and shrivelling in decay, as distinguished from *agaricus* proper, which all speedily putrify. It has derived its name of *oreades* from the *Oreads*, the playful nymphs of the hills and mountains. The *Oreads* were the companions of Pan or *Hylæus*, the forest god, and they danced and circled to his piping. The feeling of loneliness belonging to hilly places was attributed to the presence of Pan, and from this old belief has arisen our modern word "panic," which means fear without a visible cause. Pan is said to have terrified people by sudden loud shouts, and to have sometimes ill-treated the inoffensive dancing fairy ring *Oreads*. If the botanist who walks over grassy hills happens to be an archaeologist as well as a fungologist, he will possibly light on arrow-heads of flint in country places, and especially in Ireland. These arrow-heads are termed fairy darts and elfin shots, and they are associated with the sports and quarrels of the nymphs and fairies. Fairy rings are common in Ireland, but moles do not occur there this is a difficult point for the mole theorist. Fairy darts of flint were at one time common in Ireland, but of late they have nearly all been bought up by Irish cow doctors, who lend them to rustics to boil in the same pot with hot mashies prepared for ailing cows and pigs, for these fairy darts are supposed to have a mystic and potent power for curing the diseases peculiar to oxen.

G. K.

## Queries.

A FAMOUS CHESHIRE DWARF.—In his *Memoirs of Bartholomew Fair*, published in 1859 by Mr Henry

Morley, is the following respecting a famous Cheshire dwarf that was exhibited at Bartholomew's Fair the year after the great Fire:—

At Mr Croome's, at the sign of the Shoe and Slap, near the Hospital Gate in West Smithfield, a girl above sixteen years of age, born in Cheshire, and not above eighteen inches long; having shed her teeth several times, and not a perfect bone in her body, only the head; yet she hath all her senses to admiration, and discourses, reads very well, sings whistles, and all very pleasant to hear.

Sixteen years later she was in Leeds, but on comparing the above with the following extract from Ralph Thoresby's *Diary* it is remarkable to note that although she has gained six inches in height she was but six years older!

1683, June 12.—Went to see a most wonderful woman, but about two feet long, though twenty-one years old. She was born in Bowdon parish, in Cheshire, near the Lord Delamere's, and is said to have no bone in her but the head, though I suppose a mistake.

Can any reader of "Notes and Queries" say who this Thomasina Thumb was? Perhaps one of your Altrincham readers could furnish the information. F.R.H.S.

THE FAMILYS ACTON OF SNELSON AND PARKER OF WARMINCHAM.—It has been a great pleasure to me to read of the rise and progress of different Cheshire family worthies in your paper issued weekly, and I seize this opportunity of asking you if you could kindly give an account of the old, very old family named William Acton, of Snelson, near Knutsford and Chelford, and also the old family of Ralph Parker, of Warmincham, near Sandbach, as I think such portions of family history as you have issued of late are very conducive to the healthful spread of your valuable paper, and if anything can be brought to light respecting these very old familiar families in these remote villages, who on looking through Higher Penver Churchyard and Warmincham Churchyard have died at a good old age, it will be of interest.

E. GOODWIN.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1886.

## Notes.

CHESHIRE CUSTOMS, IDIOMS, METAPHORS, AND PROVERBS.

Some time ago your "Notes and Queries" column contained a list of Cheshire proverbs, since which time I have been hoping to see it supplemented. Some years ago Mr Robert Holland, of Frodsham, read a paper on "Cheshire Customs," and subsequently a

paper before the Chester Archaeological Society on "Proverbs." As your "Notes and Queries" have hitherto contained but little in this direction, I send you the cuttings, for I consider they contain information that should be embodied in its pages, and no better authority on the subject than Mr Holland exists in the county.

Stockport.

JAMES MOORHOUSE.

The first thing a farmer does on entering a new farm

is to have what is called a ploughing day. He goes round to all his new neighbours, generally accompanied by an old inhabitant, and requests them to send him a team of horses and a ploughman on some particular day. The favour is never refused, and sufficient teams assemble to get through a fair amount of work in the day; and it is a substantial help to the new farmer. Dinner is provided for the men, and it is a pleasant out for them; but they consider it rather *infra dig* if they are asked to do anything but lay ploughing, that is, ploughing up grass land, which, of course, shows off the skill of the ploughman better than the ploughing of broken land does. The custom in hiring servants was, and no doubt still is in many places, for the servant to call at the farm selected a few weeks before Christmas, and generally at night; and if a bargain was struck the farmer gave the man or woman a shilling; and this was understood to fasten the servant for a year. If anything occurred to break the arrangement the shilling would be sent back, and if accepted there was an end to the engagement. Servants always left their old places the day after Christmas Day, and went home "to play them," as it was called, for a week before going to the new place. They always entered their new place the day after, or the day but one after, New Year's Day. To enter service on New Year's Day would have been considered very unlucky. About Mobberley it was usual for the farmer to ask his servants during wakes' week whether they wished to "stop on," that is, take service for another year. If he did not ask them at the wakes the servant understood that his master did not wish him to stay, and he considered himself at liberty to look out for a new place. All this is a good deal changed, for many more day labourers are employed, and fewer servants live in the house than was formerly the case. It was always the custom in Cheshire farmhouses to have pudding before meat at dinner. On Shrove Tuesday the servants were very liberally supplied with pancakes, respecting which a curious custom prevails, I think, in all parts of Cheshire. Everyone tries to eat as many pancakes as possible, and the one who is "stowed" first, that is, first satiated, is carried off by his fellow-servants and deposited upon the midden. Cheshire weights and measures are interesting. The rood, as it is called (*i.e.* rod), of eight lineal yards is the foundation of all measurement. Such piece-work as hedging and ditching, draining, putting up rails, &c., is done at so much per rood. Square or land measure is as follows:—64 square yards, that is 8 by 8, 1 square rood; 40 square roods, or 2560 yards, 1 quarter; 4 quarters, or 10,240 yards, 1 acre. This Cheshire acre is in constant use throughout the county; and also in South Lancashire. Farmers cannot understand statute acres at all, but always reckon their fields by the Cheshire acre. Mowing, reaping, spreading manure, &c., are always "set," that

is to say, at so much per Cheshire acre. I feel very sure that a good many mistakes are made every year in filling up the agricultural returns by farmers putting down Cheshire instead of statute acres. Practically the Cheshire acre is very convenient, and labourers can reckon their work to a nicety, for 101 yards stridden each way is quite near enough to an acre for the payment of piece-work. Then the *score* of 20 is also in very general use both as a measurement of length and of weight—such piece-work as getting up rows of potatoes, and *fasking* rows of turnips is done at so much per score yards. A Cheshire farmer thinks in scores, if I may be allowed such an expression. He knows nothing of stones, but he values his pig by estimating how many score pounds it will weigh. He counts his money by twenties. If a hundred pounds have to be counted, he makes five piles of twenty sovereigns each, not ten of ten each. The score is an integral part of the long hundredweight, or 120 lbs., and this long cwt. is a much more convenient weight to use than the standard cwt. of 112 lbs., because it is assimilated to duodecimal coinage. All calculations founded on it become extremely easy. Thus 6d per lb. is 60s per cwt., and £60 per ton; 6½d per lb. is 63s 6d per cwt., and £63 10s per ton; 6¾d per lb. is 65s per cwt., and £65 per ton, and so on. Formerly, in Cheshire, I presume, everything was sold by the long cwt.; and in my younger days the sets of weights at a farm used to be 1 2 4 6 10 30, and 60 lbs. respectively. Cheese is I think now the only article which is sold by the long cwt.; though we still use very commonly the load, or pack of 240 lbs., which is in reality two long hundredweights, in weighing certain kinds of corn. Up to thirty or forty years ago a very curious and ingenious method of weighing cheese was in use. It was no doubt invented in consequence of the impossibility in those days of weighing more than one or two hundredweight at once upon an ordinary pair of scales; for farmers had not the weighing machines then which are tolerably common now; and also, no doubt, because farmers were not very good scholars, and to work a long compound addition sum involving many lines of cwts., qrs., and lbs. would have been a difficult task. But I have known at least one cheese-factor who always adopted the system as being simple and very trustworthy. Accordingly, the scales, large wooden ones, hung by strong chains, were fixed up in some convenient place, and two 60 lb. weights were put into one scale—representing a hundredweight. Cheeses to equal this as nearly as possible were placed in the other scale, and "1" was scratched upon the wall, or chalked up on the door, to show that the 1 cwt. of cheese had been weighed. Of course the cheeses might be a few pounds over or under the cwt., and to ascertain the difference small paving stones were used instead of small weights. If the cheeses weighed more than one cwt., stones were

added to the weights until the scales balanced; these stones were then called "cheese," and were placed on the floor near the cheese scale. If the cheeses weighed less than one cwt., stones were put into the cheese scale until the two scales balanced; these stones were called weights, and were put on the floor near the weight scale. This process went on until all the cheese was weighed; but to avoid having a large pile of stones for each scale, it was often the custom to deduct from or add to the stones representing cheese as the weighing went on. At the last the stones were weighed against each other, and the difference added to or subtracted from the number of cwts. recorded on the wall. Sometimes four 80lb. weights were used, and two cwt. of cheese weighed at each weighing. As soon as the cheese was weighed it was paid for, and the reason given was embodied in what may be called a proverbial saying "that the cheese and the money should always sleep together one night."

A Cheshire farmer never told his neighbours, and often not even his wife, what he got for his cheese; partly because he was very jealous of the reputation of his cheese, and did not like to think that anyone had got a better price; but partly also because the factors generally persuaded him that they were giving him more than they had given anyone else, and implored him not to tell anybody. The money which the farmer got for his cheese he kept for rent and farm expenses, and seldom supplied his wife with money for household expenses. They generally had two purses, and did not interfere with each other. The money which the wife got by the sale of butter, eggs, and such small produce was called "butter-money," and was her perquisite, and she had to pay household expenses out of it. Calves which came after grass time were generally fed on sloetings instead of milk, and were called "piggin-calves," and these also were the wife's perquisite. I have known the wife to be accused by the husband of taking too much cream out of the cheese to increase her butter-money; but such cases were rare, I am glad to say. I knew one couple whose custom was that the husband supplied coals to the house out of his purse, and the wife supplied candles out of hers. The consequence was that he kept the household short of fire on winter nights, whilst she made him sit in the dark, or by firelight only. There were frequent squabbles, of course, and the man spent most of his evenings at the public-house, and in the end killed himself with drink. But to return to the weights and measures. Twenty-four sheaves of corn are called a *thrive*. The threshing machine has in a great degree superseded the flail; but when hand-threshing is done by piecework, it is almost always done at so much per thrive. The farmer counts out two or three thrives at a time for his men to thrash, and keeps a record of the amount of work done. I

have heard of threshing being let at so much per measure (that is a local bushel) in order to ensure the corn being threshed out clean. In threshing, four sheaves used to be spread out on the floor, head to head, and when thrashed they were tied up into two battens of straw; thus a thrive of corn only makes twelve sheaves of straw, and this no doubt accounts for an apparent anomaly in Wilbraham's Glossary, where he explains a thrive as "generally twelve but sometimes twenty-four sheaves of corn." At auction sales stacks of corn are very often sold by the thrive. The imperial bushel is unknown in Cheshire; but we use what is known as a measure, which varies for different materials and in different localities. A measure of wheat varies, sometimes in neighbouring parishes, from 70lb to 75lb or 80lb. Four measures make a *load*. In buying corn, therefore, it is necessary to specify what weight a measure or load is expected to be. But, as I have already stated, the score being in such general use, it is almost more general to specify how many score a load is to weigh than how many pounds the measure is to weigh. 70lb to the measure equal 14 score to the load; 75lb equal 15 score, and 80lbs equal 16 score. Fourteen scores and sixteen scores to the load are the most generally used. Oats are generally sold 45lb to the measure; in Chester 46lb; but in some places 50lb; and though we always speak of loads of wheat, I do not know that I ever heard a load of oats spoken of. Beans are sold by the measure of 60 lb, or the load of 240lb. The old term "pack" for 240lb is frequently heard in Cheshire. Potatoes are sold by the long score of 21lb—the measure of 84lb—but this rather rarely, or the load of 12 score 12lb, that is 12 long scores or 252lb. Hampers are also made for potatoes, which are supposed to contain half a load, and they are frequently sold in these hampers without weighing. Fruit is sold by the local *peck*, the measure of four pecks, and the *hamper* of six pecks. About Fradsham green gooseberries are sold by the *sack* of six pecks. A peck of apples, if sold by weight, must weigh 14lb; of pears 16lb; and of plums 18lb. All kinds of corn are now sold in Cheshire by weight; but formerly I recollect there were measure, half measure, and peck cylinders; and no doubt corn was sold by measure as well as by weight—in fact we gather as much from the old Cheshire saying to express good measure—"Maxfil mizzer, upyepp'd and thrutched." Not many years since a pound of butter varied in different markets—seventeen or eighteen ounces were frequent; but at Northwich butter was sold by the *dish*, as it was called, of 20oz. Butter was also sold by the dish in Chester, but I do not know what weight it was. An imperial gill is a quarter of a pint. In Cheshire a gill means double that quantity. If a Cheshire man were to call for a gill of ale in London, he would, to his infinite dismay, only be served with what he would designate a *noggin*. Before closing these remarks on

weights and measures, I must not omit to describe the method of cutting and weighing hay, so as to make what is called *truss weight*, which is rather a curious process. For market a ton of hay is cut into 40 trusses, which are supposed to weigh 56lb each. The hay-cutter cuts each truss as near the required weight as he can guess, and then weighs it on a steelyard (locally called "drones") which is furnished with two long hooks to hook into the bands around the truss. The drones are hung to the *stail* (or handle) of a *pikel* (or pitchfork), the *grains* (prongs) of which are thrust into the side of the haystack, the other end resting on the man's shoulder. This arrangement just gives sufficient height for the truss to rest on the ground, and the man raises it from the ground for weighing by lifting the pikel a few inches from his shoulder. Of course it very rarely happens that a truss weighs exactly 56lb; but whatever weight is under or over the 56lbs is recollected, and the underweight or overweight of each succeeding truss is subtracted from or added to the previous total under or overweight, until the whole are weighed. In fact a very ingenious mental Dr and Cr account is kept. An example will best illustrate my meaning. Suppose the first truss weighs 59lb, this is 3lb overweight; truss 2 weighs, say 55lb, or 1lb under, which subtracted from 3lb leaves 2lb overweight for the two trusses. Truss 3 may weigh only 50lbs, or 6lbs short; but there are already 2lbs over, the balance therefore is 4lb short in the three trusses. When the errors are so small as those they are allowed to pass; but if the error is very great, or the balance begins to get much too high or too low, some hay is taken from or added to a truss to equalise it again. When the last truss is weighed the whole ton may be a few pounds over or under, but cannot be more incorrect than a few pounds; and this error is easily rectified in the last truss. In retailing the hay, it is sold per truss on the supposition that each truss weighs about 56lb. If each truss is not weighed it is called cutting it "catch weight." Hay cutting is a special business. With respect to the superstitions of farmers there is the same belief in omens, warnings, charms, and general folk lore that we find amongst other members of the community; but the superstitions I wish to mention to-night are such as especially relate to the domestic animals and plants on a farm, or to such objects as the farmer or labourer, from their residence in the country, are brought in special contact with. Thus, there is a curious belief that bears only breed once in seven years; and that their doing so causes ill-luck to the breeding of domestic animals. I have it recorded that in 1878 my sow had the misfortune to lose a litter of pigs. Several of my neighbours were equally unfortunate; and the circumstance was gravely attributed to the supposition that "bears must be breeding this year." Sows when they farrow are propitiated with a large slice of hot toast and lard

to make them gentle and prevent them eating or otherwise injuring their young. Pigs should always be killed when the moon is increasing. If killed in the wane of the moon it is supposed they will not weigh so well, and the meat will shrink in cooking. Many old-fashioned people are very particular in this matter. When pigs rush about and carry straw in their mouths it forbodes windy weather. Throughout the country there is a popular idea that "pigs can see the wind;" but I am not sure whether I have ever actually heard the saying in Cheshire or not.

A good deal of folk lore attaches itself to the cow. In every herd there is always supposed to be one "master" cow, who has acquired a sort of influence over the rest, and leads them from one pasture to another. She also acts as ringleader in any mischief, as, for instance, when the herd break through a hedge into a turnip field. The premature calving of cows is of great annoyance to a farmer, and it entails not only loss of a calf but of the quantity of milk. It is universally supposed to be infectious, and several superstitious remedies are resorted to to avert it. One is to bury the calf born prematurely under its mother's "boozie." Another remedy practised at Henbury some fifty years ago was to nail the calf against the wall of one of the buildings. It is desirable that cows should calve in the day-time, as then the cowman has not the trouble of sitting up with them at night. In order to ensure their doing so they should be "dried off" preparatory to calving—that is, milked for the last time on a Sunday. It is also believed that if the first cow that calves calves in the night the majority will do the same; but if she calves in the day, most of the others will follow suit. It is considered very bad to put your hand on a calf's back; it is supposed that it will cause it to be ill. A calf generally cries when a hand is laid on its back, which no doubt has given rise to the idea that it hurts it in some way. There is a saying that "the red cow gives good milk," and a popular idea that red cow's milk is better than any other. In old medical books (not confined to Cheshire when milk was ordered to be given, it was frequently specified that it should be taken from a red cow. When almost all the cows in a herd lie down in the forenoon, we always consider in Cheshire that it forbodes rain; and I am bound to say that I have frequently verified the belief. With respect to the horse I have gathered very little folklore. A horse shoe is nailed upon the stable door to keep the witches from gaining entrance; and in many places a goat is kept amongst the horses, for what reason I have not discovered; I have occasionally been told that the smell of a goat is good for horses; but I fancy there is some deeper reason. The stripe on a donkey's shoulders is called its cross, and supernatural virtues are attributed to it. It is considered an infallible cure for the whooping cough. There are two ways of administering it. A portion of

the hair from the cross may be sewn up in a piece of flannel, and worn round the neck of the patient; or it may be chopped up very fine and eaten between bread and butter. Some years ago, when I lived in Mobberley my children had a donkey, and it was not at all an uncommon occurrence to receive the following request:—"Mester, so-and-so's choilt's gotten th' chin-cough, will yo, please, send a bit o' hair from th' donkey's cross?" I always sent what was wanted. Our Cheshire people have the strongest possible aversion to a hen which has acquired the uncanny habit of crowing like a cock. It is sure to bring bad luck, and is generally killed at once. We likewise say

A whistling woman and a crowing hen  
Are neither fit for God nor man.

A cock crowing near the kitchen or houseplace door is a sign that a stranger is coming. Our farmers' wives consider that all kinds of poultry should be set upon an odd number of eggs, otherwise they will have no luck. Many will not set their hens until after sunset; but I have heard it said that a turkey will not have luck unless she is set before sunset. Bees in Cheshire, as in many other places, should be told when the master of the house dies, or it is supposed they will desert their hives; but we go further than this, for the death of any member of the family affects them prejudicially. I recollect on one occasion overtaking a farmer's wife who was a noted *bee-merchant*, and who had a great number of hives when I had last visited her house. "Well, Mrs Burgess," I said, "how have the bees done this year?" "Ah," she replied, "they are all gone. When our Harriet lost her second child many of them died. You see they were under the window where it lay, and then when Will died last spring the rest all died too; at least some of them went away and left their honey, but the rest died. I bought a hive of bees again, but they have not swarmed, and they have not done much good. Some folks pretend to say that death has nothing to do with bees; but you may depend upon it that it has. I always say that bees are very curious things." "Yes," I said, "they are very curious things." It is said that bees should never be bought; they should be begged or borrowed; but if bought they should be paid for in gold, or exchanged for some equivalent, such as a young pig, or they will not be lucky. It is a common practice when any one wishes to begin keeping bees for a neighbour to give him a swarm, on the understanding that it shall be repaid if the donor's bees ever fail and he himself shall be in want. Kinging bees when they swarm, by making a clatter with cans, shovels, &c., is implicitly believed in. It is supposed to cause them to settle—*knit* as we call it in Cheshire. If after the swarm is hived a cluster of bees persistently remain clinging to the branch where they knit, a bunch of nettles dipped in liquid manure and suspended over them will, it is believed, drive them away. The bees

are said to have an antipathy to the nettles, on the principle, I suppose, that they both have stings—for we know, according to the old adage "two of a trade can never agree." Frogs are believed to indicate approaching weather. If they are bright and light-coloured it will be fine; if dull and dark-coloured, we may expect rain. It is firmly believed that hedgehogs suck the cows' milk when they lie down at night in the fields. I do not think you could convince a Cheshire farm labourer to the contrary. Horse beans are said to grow the wrong way up in the pod in leap year. Parsley seed is proverbial for remaining a long time in the ground before it germinates. I hope I shall not shock my hearers very much when I tell them that the Cheshire farmer accounts for it by saying that it goes nine times to the devil. I have also heard it said that to ensure a good growth of parsley the seed should be sown on Good Friday. It is very commonly said that eechalots, which are much grown in Cheshire gardens, should be planted on the shortest day and pulled on the longest. Two grasses—*darnel*, *Lolium temulentum*, and drook, *Bromus secalinus*, both of which have large seeds almost like small grains of wheat—are very common weeds amongst corn in Cheshire. Darnel produces a spike of flowers, drook grows in a panicle. The former is believed to be degenerated wheat, and only to grow amongst that crop; the latter is supposed to affect oats only, and to be a degenerated form of that grain. I will only mention one more superstitious practice connected with farming though it is by no means confined to Cheshire. It is never omitted by our farmers' wives and dairymaids, who, when they have mixed the yeast with the flour for making bread, invariably mark a cross with their finger upon the surface in order to keep out the witches, who otherwise might spoil the bread by preventing it rising. I have been told that there is a formula to be silently repeated whilst the charm is being worked, and which must not be divulged to outsiders, but unfortunately it has never been communicated to me, and I am unable, at present, to tell you its purport.

(To be Continued).

#### THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

For some time this planet has attracted a considerable amount of attention from even the most unscientific of observers. A few particulars may not be uninteresting to your readers. During the early part of December it was low down in the south, and in the region known to astronomers as Capricornus. It has moved onward into Aquarius, and as it keeps changing its position and its time of rising and setting, we will have it with us an evening star only until the first half of the month of February. After that it becomes a morning star. Then after a time it will become an evening star again. On December 9th Venus had



attained its greatest eastern elongation. This is to say, it had got to its greatest apparent distance east of the sun. So bright is Venus at times that it can be seen during the day, before dawn is sets in, and—no doubt because of its beauty and prominence—it is supposed to have been the first of the planets to attract the attention of mankind. The hold it has on our admiration grows rather than lessens the more we study it. Not only is it very beautiful, it is of great use as well. We are helped by its movements to a fuller knowledge of the laws that govern our solar system, and we take the greater interest in it because in many ways it more closely resembles the Earth than any of the other planets. The Earth, as we know, turns completely round on its own axis every 24 hours, making one day. The day in Venus is just a little less than this, the actual period being 23 hours 21½ minutes. Its diameter also comes very close to that of the Earth, being 7510 miles; but, being much nearer the Sun than the Earth, it has a shorter year than our planet, Venus going round the Sun in 224 days 17 hours, against our 365 days and odd hours and minutes. The distance from the Sun in the case of Venus is about 68,130,000 miles. When we get into millions we get into figures too vast to be readily understood; and yet we are accustomed to speak of Venus as being near the Sun. The Sun, however, has nearer neighbours still. The nearest of all is supposed to be Vulcan, and Vulcan, we are told, is so close that it cannot be seen. It is a case of being "so near and yet so far," for Vulcan is, at any rate, fourteen millions of miles from the Sun, round which it circles every twenty days, so that to Vulcan a new year comes in about two-thirds of one of our months. Next to Vulcan comes Mercury, about whose presence in the solar system there is no doubt at all, and whose mean distance from the central orb is a little over 35,000,000 miles. It has about four years to our one. Venus comes next, and the next planet to Venus is the Earth. Then we have Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune at greater distances still; and, of course, the further the planet is from the Sun the longer the time it will take to swing round that body, and the longer its year. In the case of Neptune a year is not completed until more than a century and a half of our time is expired. But we must go back to Venus, and to the use astronomers are able to make of it. As Venus comes between us and the Sun, it happens that at certain intervals it passes across the Sun's disc, and then we have a very tiny kind of eclipse—a little black speck moving over the Sun's face. By means of observations taken on such occasions learned men are able to calculate certain movements and distances of the heavenly bodies in their relation to the Sun with the greatest nicety. The phenomenon we are speaking of is called the transit of Venus, and it does not occur at regular intervals. There were only two last century—one in 1761 and the other in 1769. There was not another after until our own time—in 1874. Then there

was one in 1882. There will not be another until June 8th, 2004. E. K.

#### STORAGE PRICE OF WHEAT EACH YEAR FROM 1680 TO 1885.

s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1680	40 0	1742	23 8	1784	50 4	1835	39 4
1681	41 5	1733	25 2	1485	43 1	1836	48 6
1682	39 1	1744	30 9	1786	40 0	1837	55 10
1683	35 6	1735	33 2	1787	42 8	1838	64 1
1684	39 1	1736	35 10	1788	46 4	1839	70 8
1685	41 5	1737	33 9	1789	52 9	1840	66 4
1686	30 2	1738	31 6	1790	54 9	1841	64 4
1687	22 4	1739	34 2	1791	48 7	1842	57 3
1688	40 10	1740	45 1	1792	40 3	1843	50 1
1689	26 8	1741	41 5	1793	49 3	1844	51 3
1690	30 9	1742	30 2	1794	52 3	1845	50 10
1691	30 2	1743	32 1	1795	75 2	1846	54 6
1692	41 5	1744	22 1	1796	78 7	1847	69 9
1693	60 1	1745	24 5	1797	53 9	1848	50 6
1694	56 10	1746	34 8	1798	51 10	1849	44 2
1695	47 1	1747	30 11	1799	69 0	1850	40 3
1696	63 1	1748	32 10	1800	113 10	1851	38 6
1697	53 4	1749	32 10	1801	119 6	1852	40 9
1698	60 9	1750	28 10	1802	69 10	1853	53 2
1699	56 10	1751	34 2	1803	58 10	1854	73 2
1700	35 6	1752	37 2	1804	62 3	1855	74 6
1701	33 5	1753	39 8	1805	89 9	1856	69 2
1702	26 2	1754	30 9	1806	79 1	1857	56 4
1703	32 0	1755	30 1	1807	75 4	1858	44 1
1704	11 4	1756	40 1	1808	81 4	1859	43 9
1705	26 8	1757	53 4	1809	97 4	1860	53 2
1706	23 1	1758	41 4	1810	106 5	1861	55 4
1707	25 4	1759	35 3	1811	95 3	1862	55 5
1708	36 10	1760	33 5	1812	126 6	1863	44 9
1709	69 9	1761	26 9	1813	109 9	1864	40 2
1710	69 4	1762	34 8	1814	74 4	1865	41 0
1711	48 0	1763	36 1	1815	65 7	1866	49 11
1712	41 2	1764	41 5	1816	78 6	1867	4 4
1713	45 4	1765	48 0	1817	96 11	1868	63 9
1714	44 9	1766	43 1	1818	86 3	1869	48 2
1715	38 2	1767	47 4	1819	74 6	1870	44 11
1716	42 8	1768	53 9	1820	67 10	1871	56 8
1717	40 7	1769	40 7	1821	56 1	1872	57 0
1718	34 6	1770	43 6	1822	44 7	1873	58 6
1719	31 1	1771	47 2	1823	53 4	1874	55 9
1720	32 10	1772	50 8	1824	63 11	1875	45 1
1721	33 4	1773	51 0	1825	68 6	1876	46 2
1722	32 0	1774	52 8	1826	58 8	1877	56 9
1723	30 10	1775	48 4	1827	58 6	1878	46 5
1724	32 10	1776	38 2	1828	60 5	1879	43 10
1725	43 1	1777	45 6	1829	66 3	1880	44 4
1726	40 10	1778	42 0	1830	64 3	1881	45 4
1727	37 4	1779	33 8	1831	66 4	1882	45 1
1728	48 5	1780	36 0	1832	58 8	1883	41 7
1729	41 7	1781	40 6	1833	52 11	1884	35 8
1730	33 5	1782	49 3	1834	46 2	1885	32 10
1731	29 2	1783	54 3				

Highest, 1812, 126s 6d; lowest, 1743-44, 22s 1d.  
Cheadle. R. THOMPSON.

#### HEIGHT ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

In a recent impression I observed the introduction of a new feature in your paper—viz., information as to the altitude of several towns, together with a request for particulars of a like nature about other towns from persons able to give the figures with

accuracy, and as reliable statistics of this kind would be valuable from a "healthy-home" point of view, I hope to see your invitation responded to week after week till the altitude of all health resorts and important town and residential districts are given. Will some of your correspondents inform me, firstly, what is the sea level? and, secondly, which is the way to arrive at the altitude of a place? and oblige

ONE WHO DOES NOT KNOW.

## Queries.

THE WELLES FAMILY OF SANDRACH.—Turning over *Ormerod* I find that several members of this family left bequests to Cheshire charities, but no mention is made of the family's history. I should be glad, therefore, if some of my correspondents possessing such information would communicate or inform me in what work it is to be found.

A BOOKWORM.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1886.

### THE PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE OLD "STOCKPORT LOYAL VOLUNTEERS."

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for January, 1795, appears a very interesting account of the presentation of colours to the old "Stockport Loyal Volunteers," which will doubtless be welcome to many of your readers. The colours were discovered stored away in a disused part of the Court House some few years ago, and were subsequently removed to the Vernon Park Museum, where they still remain. The presentation to the corps took place, it appears, on the 7th January, 1795, and the account given of the event in the *Gentleman's Magazine* is as follows

"The corps was drawn up in the Market-place at nine o'clock. From thence they proceeded to the field where they are exercised. A part of the Grenadier company were then detached, and went to receive an elegant set of colours (the gift of Lady Warren) from Mrs Prescott, which being delivered to the ensigns appointed to carry them, Captain Watson, the commanding officer, addressed the corps in the following words:—

'Gentlemen and fellow-soldiers,—The cause in which we have with so much alacrity engaged, and which so honourably distinguishes the loyalty of the generality of the inhabitants of this town, cannot have a more exalted testimony of the propriety of training ourselves to arms, in the defence of our king and country, than the presentation of these colours from a lady of such distinguished sense and amiable elegance of manners as our lady patroness. The soldier must want emulation indeed who, under such an obligation, is not determined to defend them to the last drop of his blood; especially when delivered as they are, the insignia of fidelity to the best of Sovereigns. As a young corps, we have not, it is true, a reputation established by former achievements to spur us on to deeds of glory; but should our country require our services, we ought to remember that we are Britons, associated for the laudable purpose of supporting the Imperial Crown of this

realm, and preferring the constitutional rights and liberties of a great nation, and of a free and happy people; objects which, I trust, it is as much our inclination as it is now become our duty to support to the last extremity. And although an extraordinary degree of success has latterly attended the arms of our enemies, we ought not on that account to be dismayed; but, at a momentous crisis like the present, when everything dear and valuable as men and as Christians is at stake, it behoves us by our valour and perseverance to convince the world that we are still worthy of the name and character of Britons. Gentlemen, this is a subject on which much might be said by men of genius and eloquence; but I, who am a plain man and unused to public speaking, must content myself with adding that in justice of our cause, in the good sense, in the loyalty and bravery of my countrymen, and in the protection of that Divine Providence whose honour has been so openly violated by our enemies, I place my confidence and hopes of success; trusting that neither the hostile attacks of our enemies, numerous as they are, nor the wicked attempts of those at home, who by the industrious discrimination (dissemination?) of novel doctrines, have so insidiously endeavoured to destroy the orders of civil society, and spread anarchy and confusion over the land, will in the end avail them anything; but that we, by unanimity among ourselves and by a vigorous prosecution of the just and necessary war (the war with France) in which we are engaged, shall ultimately be enabled effectually to resist all their efforts, and to transmit to posterity, unimpaired, a Constitution which has long been the pride and boast of Englishmen, and an object of admiration and envy to surrounding nations.'

"The corps then went to church, where their worthy chaplain, the Rev. Charles Prescott, delivered a most excellent sermon, adapted to the occasion, from the 133rd Psalm: 'Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.' The horrors of a foreign invasion, and those arising from civil wars, were portrayed in the most lively colours

the blessings arising from concord were also admirably depicted, whence unanimity was ardently recommended. From the church the corps proceeded to the field, where they went through their exercise with great ease and skill, and fired in such a manner as would have distinguished the best disciplined regiment under the Crown. After this they dined together, attended by the gentlemen of the town, and in the evening went to the theatre, which was exceedingly crowded, and where a song, written for the occasion by Mr Robert Chestham, was sung by desire of the officers."

Such is the account given in the most authentic record of the time of an event which was evidently regarded as a memorable one in the history of Stockport. The position of foreign affairs was perilous, the domestic arena in politics was greatly excited, and at an anxious moment in the history of England the people of Stockport apparently played a noble part.

Lichfield. AN OLD RESIDENT OF STOCKPORT.

#### MACCLESFIELD PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

The following returns of the Macclesfield borough elections since the passing of the first Reform Act, 1832, have been specially compiled for the *Advertiser*, this being the first time the information has been published in a collected form:—

##### DECEMBER 12, 1832.

|                             | Votes. |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| John Ryle (C).....          | 443    |
| John Brocklehurst (L) ..... | 403    |
| Thomas Grimsditch (C) ..... | 186    |
| No. of Voters on List 758.  |        |

##### JANUARY 13, 1835.

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| John Ryle (C).....          | 464 |
| John Brocklehurst (L) ..... | 434 |
| Thomas Grimsditch (C) ..... | 341 |
| No. of Voters on List 896.  |     |

##### JULY 26, 1837.

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| John Brocklehurst (L) ..... | 546 |
| Thomas Grimsditch (C) ..... | 471 |
| Robert Hyde Greg (L) .....  | 293 |
| No. of Voters on List 975.  |     |

##### JULY 1, 1841.

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| John Brocklehurst (L) ..... | 534 |
| Thomas Grimsditch (C) ..... | 410 |
| Samuel Stocks (L).....      | 327 |
| No. of Voters 866.          |     |

##### JULY 30, 1847.

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| John Brocklehurst (L) ..... | 596 |
| John Williams (L).....      | 500 |
| Thomas Grimsditch (C) ..... | 423 |
| No. of Voters on List 1003. |     |

##### JULY 8, 1852.

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| John Brocklehurst (L) .....       | 626 |
| Ed. Christopher Egerton (C) ..... | 530 |
| John Williams (L).....            | 468 |
| No. of Voters on List 1108.       |     |

##### MARCH 27, 1857.

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| John Brocklehurst (L).....        | 637 |
| Ed. Christopher Egerton (C) ..... | 565 |
| Thomas Huggins (L) .....          |     |
| No. of Voters on List 1141.       |     |

##### APRIL 29, 1859.

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| John Brocklehurst (L)           |  |
| Edward Christopher Egerton (C)  |  |
| Sir Wm. Yardley, Knt. (retired) |  |
| No. of Voters on Register 1112. |  |

##### JULY 12, 1865.

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Ed. Christopher Egerton (C) ..... | 471 |
| John Brocklehurst (L) .....       | 469 |
| David Chadwick (L) .....          | 421 |
| No. of Voters on Register 964.    |     |

##### NOVEMBER 17, 1868.

|                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Wm. Coare Brocklehurst (L) ..... | 3612 |
| David Chadwick (L) .....         | 2509 |
| William Meriton Eaton (C) ...    | 2321 |
| No. of Voters on Register 4924.  |      |

##### APRIL 2, 1874.

|                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Wm. Coare Brocklehurst (L) ..... | 3173 |
| David Chadwick (L) .....         | 3792 |
| William Meriton Eaton (C) ...    | 2750 |
| James Croston (C).....           | 2350 |
| No. of Voters on Register 6224.  |      |

##### APRIL 1, 1880.

|                                  |      |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Wm. Coare Brocklehurst (L) ..... | 2946 |
| David Chadwick (L).....          | 2744 |
| William Meriton Eaton (C) ...    | 2678 |
| James Chas. Whitehorse (C) ..... | 2188 |
| No. of Voters on Register 6977.  |      |

Macclesfield Borough was merged into the Macclesfield Division of the County of Chester by the Seats Act of 1885.

R. STUBBS.

#### CHESHIRE CANDIDATES AT THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1885.

The following are the biographies in brief of the candidates contesting Cheshire constituencies at the late election, together with those of candidates for other constituencies who are connected with the county by birth, profession, or residence:—

ACKERS, BENJAMIN ST. JOHN, of Prinknash Park, Gloucestershire, the Conservative candidate for South Gloucestershire, is the only surviving son of the late

Mr James Ackers, by his marriage with Mary, youngest daughter of the late Mr Benjamin Williams, of Bowden Lodge, Chester. He was born in 1839, educated at Rugby and St. John's College, Oxon, and called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1865. Mr Ackers, who is a celebrated breeder of shorthorns, married, in 1861, Louisa, daughter of Mr O. B. Hunt. Unsuccessful.

ADDISON, JOHN EDMUND WENTWORTH, Q.C., Conservative candidate for Ashton-under-Lyne, and recorder of Preston, is a son of Mr Henry Addison, of Preston, by his marriage with a daughter of Sir Robert Barton, colonel of the 2nd Life Guards, and was born at Preston, in 1838. Mr Addison was educated at Preston Grammar School and at Trinity College, Dublin, where he obtained a scholarship and prize for Greek verse. He was called to the Bar in 1862, and practised in Preston until 1865, when he removed to Manchester. In 1880 he was appointed a Queen's Counsel, and has since resided in London. In 1883 he was elected a Bencher of the Inner Temple. Mr Addison married Miss Alice M'Keand, daughter of Mr Joseph M'Keand, of Manchester. Successful.

AMBROSE, WILLIAM, Q.C., Conservative candidate for the Harrow Division, was born at Chester in 1832. For some years he was employed in a solicitor's office, but in 1859 was called to the Bar. In 1868 he unsuccessfully contested Stockport. In 1874 he was made a Queen's Counsel, and in May, 1881, a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn. Successful.

ASHTON, THOMAS GAIR, Liberal Candidate for the Hyde Division, is the eldest son of Mr Thomas Ashton, of Hyde, and of Ford Bank, Manchester, by his marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr S. Gair, of Liverpool. He was born in the year 1855, and was educated at Rugby and University College, Oxford. Mr Ashton is a J.P. for Lancashire. Successful.

BARLOW, JOHN EMMOTT, Liberal Candidate for the Knutsford Division, is the eldest son of Mr Thomas Barlow, of Torkington Lodge, near Stockport, Cheshire, and Bryn Eirias, Colwyn Bay, North Wales, by his marriage with Mary Ann, younger daughter of Mr George Emmott, of Daley, Cheshire. He was born in the year 1857, and educated at Grove House, Tottenham, and by private tuition. Mr Barlow was called to the bar at the Inner Temple in May, 1884. Unsuccessful.

BRASSEY, SIR T., K.C.B., Liberal candidate for Hastings, is the eldest son of the late Mr Thomas Brassey, railway contractor. He was born in 1836, and was educated at Rugby and at Oxford. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1866, is a deputy-lieutenant of the county of Sussex, an Elder Brother of Trinity House, and an Associate of the Institute of Civil Engineers. He was first elected for Hastings in 1868. In 1880 he joined the Gladstone Ministry as Civil Lord of the Admiralty, and in 1884 was promoted to be Secretary to the Admiralty. Successful.

BRIGHT, JACOB, of Alderley Edge, Cheshire, Liberal candidate for South-west Manchester, is a son of the late Mr Jacob Bright, of Greenbank, Rochdale, and was born in 1821. He was educated at the Friends' School, York. Mr Bright was in Parliament as member for Manchester from November, 1867, to February, 1874, and has also represented the city since February, 1876. He married, in 1855, Ursula, daughter of the late Mr Joseph Mellor, of Liverpool. Unsuccessful.

BROCKLEHURST, WILLIAM COARE, Liberal Candidate for the Macclesfield Division of Cheshire, is the eldest son of the late Mr John Brocklehurst, whom he succeeded in 1868 in the representation of Macclesfield. He was returned for that borough in 1880, but unseated on petition. He was born in 1818, and married, in 1840, Mary, daughter of Mr William Worthington, of Brocklehurst Hall, Cheshire. He is engaged in the silk trade, and was formerly captain in the Earl of Chester's Yeomanry. Successful.

BROOKS, JOHN, Conservative Candidate for the Altrincham Division, is the only son of the late Rev. John Brooks, rector of Walton-le-Dale, Lancashire, and Anne, daughter of the late Mr John Jones, of Kilsall Hall, Shropshire. He was born in 1856, and educated at Harrow and Merton College, Oxford, where he obtained the Newdigate prize in 1877, and graduated with honours in the School of History and Political Economy. Mr Brooks is a magistrate for Cheshire and Berkshire. Successful.

BROOKS, WILLIAM CUNLIFFE, Conservative Candidate for the Macclesfield Division, is a son of the late Mr Samuel Brooks, banker, and Margaret, daughter of the late Mr Thomas Hall. He was born in 1819, educated at Rugby and at St. John's, Cambridge, and called to the bar at the Inner Temple. He practised for some time and went the Northern Circuit, but ceased practising upon becoming a partner in the firm of Cunliffe, Brooks, and Co., bankers. In 1842 he married Jane Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr Ralph Orrell, of Stockport, who died in 1865, and in 1879 Jane, daughter of Lieutenant-colonel Davidson. Mr Cunliffe Brooks is a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Lancashire, and also a magistrate for Cheshire and Manchester. He represented East Cheshire from October, 1869, to the close of the last Parliament. Unsuccessful.

BRUNNER, JOHN TOMLINSON, Liberal candidate for Northwich Division, is of German-Swiss extraction. His father was a citizen of Zurich, who settled in this country and established a school at Liverpool. Mr Brunner, who was born in 1842, was educated in his father's school, and in 1857 entered mercantile life. In 1872, in conjunction with Mr Ludwig Mond, the distinguished chemist, he started the alkali works at Northwich, which are now the largest of their kind in the world. Mr Brunner has contributed large sums

to the Barnworth and White's Grammar Schools, at the latter of which he has acted as schoolmaster for the benefit of boys attending the evening school. He has also given large sums to the Liverpool University College. In July last he presented to the town of Northwich a handsome free public library at a cost of £7000. He has been twice married—first to Salome, daughter of Mr James Davies, of Liverpool, and, secondly, to Jane, daughter of the late Dr. Wyman, of Kettering. Successful.

BUCKLEY, ABEL, of Moss Lodge, Ashton-under-Lyne, Liberal candidate for South-east Lancashire, Prestwich Division, is the son of Mr Abel Buckley, by his marriage with Miss Mary Kesham, and was born at Ashton in 1835. He was educated at Mill-hill School and Owens College, Manchester. He is a cotton manufacturer at Ashton-under-Lyne; chairman of the Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Company (Limited); and a magistrate for Lancashire, Cheshire and Ashton-under-Lyne. Mr Buckley married Hannah, daughter of the late Mr John Summers, of Sunnyside, Ashton-under-Lyne. Successful.

CAINE, WILLIAM SPANSTON, Liberal candidate for the Tottenham Division, is the son of the late Mr Nathaniel Caine, a magistrate for Lancashire and Cumberland, by Hannah, daughter of the late Mr William Rushton, a merchant, of Liverpool. He was born at Peacombe, Cheshire, in 1842, and married, in 1868, Alice, eldest daughter of the Rev. Hugh Stowell Brown, of Liverpool. Mr Caine is a director and partner in the Huddersfield Mining Company, Millom, Cumberland, and is a magistrate for the North Riding of Yorkshire. He was appointed Civil Lord of the Admiralty in Mr Gladstone's Administration in November, 1884. He unsuccessfully contested Liverpool in 1873 and 1874, but was returned for Scarborough in April, 1880. Unsuccessful.

CHEETHAM, J. F., Liberal candidate for the High Peak Division, Derbyshire, is a son of Mr John Cheetham, of Eastwood, Stalybridge, formerly M.P. for South Lancashire, and subsequently for Salford, by Emma, daughter of the late Mr T. Rayner, of Ashton-under-Lyne. He was born in 1834, was educated at University College, London, and took classical honours in the University of London in 1853. He is a magistrate for Cheshire and Lancashire. Unsuccessful.

COTTON, E. T. D., Conservative candidate for the Wirral Division of Cheshire, is the only son of the late Bishop Cotton, of Calcutta, by his marriage with Sophia Annie, daughter of the late Rev. H. Tomkinson, of Reaseheath, Nantwich. He was born in 1847, and was educated at Rugby, Marlborough, and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. He retired from the army in 1881. He is a magistrate for Cheshire, and in 1878 married Mary Rennell, eldest daughter of Mr William R. Obridge, of Salston, Ottery St. Mary, Devon. Successful.

CROSS, SIR RICHARD ASHERTON, Conservative candidate for South-west Lancashire, is the third son of the late Mr William Cross, of Redscar, near Preston, by his marriage with Ellen, daughter of the late Mr Edward Clifters. He was born in 1823, was educated at Rugby and Trinity College, Cambridge, and called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1849, being elected a Bencher in 1876. He is a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Lancashire and a magistrate for Cheshire. He was Home Secretary from February, 1874, until April, 1880, when he was created G.C.B. He represented Preston 1857-62, and South-West Lancashire from 1868 until the late dissolution. Sir Richard Cross married, in 1852, Georgiana, daughter of the late Mr Thomas Lyon, of Appleton Hall, Cheshire. Successful.

CUNLIFFE, SIR ROBERT ALFRED, of Acton Park, Wrexham, Liberal candidate for the Denbigh Boroughs, is the elder son of the late Mr R. E. Cunliffe, of the Bengal Civil Service, and grandson of the fourth baronet. He was born in 1839, was educated at Eton, and served for a few years in the Scots Fusilier Guards. He is a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant of Denbighshire, and has been lieutenant-colonel commandant of the Denbighshire Militia since 1872. He served the office of high sheriff of Denbighshire in 1868. Sir Robert, who married, in 1869, Eleanor Sophia Egerton, only daughter of the late Colonel Egerton Leigh, of West Hall, High Leigh, and Jodrell Hall, Cheshire, represented the Flint Boroughs in 1873-4, and Denbigh District from 1880 till the dissolution. Unsuccessful.

DUNCAN, DAVID, Liberal candidate for Barrow-in-Furness, was born in 1831 in Perthshire, and received his education in Dundee, leaving that town for Liverpool in his 18th year. He spent ten years in Chili as a merchant, and then returned to Liverpool. He is a magistrate for Cheshire. Successful.

EGERTON, ALAN DE TATTON, Conservative Candidate for the Knutsford Division of Cheshire, was born in 1845, and is a son of the late Lord Egerton of Tatton. He was educated at Eton, and is a lieutenant in the Earl of Chester's Yeomanry Cavalry. Mr Egerton was returned for Mid-Cheshire in 1883 in place of his brother, the present Lord Egerton of Tatton. He is a magistrate for Cheshire, and is married to a daughter of Mr and Lady Charlotte Watson-Taylor, of Erlestoke Park, Wilts. Successful.

FORWOOD, ARTHUR BOWER, of the Priory, Gateacre, Conservative candidate for South-west Lancashire, senior partner in the firms of Leech, Harrison, and Forwood, Brothers, London, is the son of the late Mr Thomas B. Forwood, J.P., of the Manor, Thornton Hough, Cheshire, and Cumberland, by his marriage with Charlotte, daughter of Mr William Bower, of Liverpool. He was born at Liverpool in 1836, and educated at Liverpool College Upper School. He is a

magistrate for Liverpool, an alderman of the city, and was Mayor in 1877-8. He is president of the Liverpool Constitutional Association. He unsuccessfully contested Liverpool in December, 1882. Mr Forwood married, first, Lucy, daughter of the late Mr S. Crofield, of Liverpool, and, secondly, Lizzie, daughter of the late Mr Thomas Bonner, of Liverpool and London, and niece of Sir E. Baines, of Leeds. Successful.

FOSTER, BALTEAZAR WALTER, M.D., Liberal candidate for Chester, was born at Cambridge in 1840. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London, president of the council of the British Medical Association, and Professor of Medicine in Queen's College, Birmingham. Dr. Foster is a magistrate for the county of Warwick, and a town councillor of Birmingham. He married, in 1864, Emily, second daughter of Mr William Lucas Sargent. Successful.

GREEN, EDWARD, of Heath Old Hall, Wakefield, and Ken Hill, King's Lynn, Conservative candidate for Wakefield, is the eldest son of the late Mr Edward Green, of Sandal Magna, Yorkshire, and was born in 1831. He is the head of the Phoenix Ironworks Company at Wakefield, a magistrate for the West Riding of Yorkshire and for Norfolk, chairman of the Wakefield School Board since 1871, and a director of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company. Mr Green, who married, in 1859, Mary, daughter of Mr William Edward Lycett, of Bowdon, Cheshire, was first returned for Wakefield in 1874, but unseated on petition. He was again elected last July. Successful.

GREENALL, SIR GILBERT, of Walton Hall, Cheshire, Conservative candidate for Warrington, is the son of the late Mr Edward Greenall, of Wilderspool, Cheshire. He was born in 1806, and married, first, in 1836, Mary (who died in 1861), daughter of Mr David Claughton, of Haydock, Lancashire; and, secondly, in 1864, Susannah, daughter of Mr John Louis Rapp. He was High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1873, and is a magistrate and deputy lieutenant for Lancashire, and a magistrate for Cheshire. Successful.

GROSVENOR, LORD R., Liberal candidate for Flintshire, is the youngest son of the second Marquis of Westminster, by his marriage with Lady Elizabeth Mary, daughter of the first Duke of Sutherland. He was born in 1837, was educated at Westminster and at Trinity College, Cambridge, and is a magistrate for Flintshire and Dorsetshire, a director of the London and North-Western Railway Company and of the Alliance Life and Fire Insurance Company. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, an associate of the Institute of Civil Engineers, and hon. colonel of the Queen's Dorset Yeomanry Cavalry. Lord Richard Grosvenor, who has represented Flintshire since May, 1861, was Vice-Chamberlain of Her Majesty's Household from February, 1872, till February, 1874, and patronage secretary to the Treasury (senior whip)

from April, 1880, till June, 1885. He married, first, in 1874, the Hon. Beatrice, youngest daughter of the third Viscount de Vesci, and secondly, in 1879, Eleanor, daughter of the late Mr R. Strabber, of Moyne, Queen's County. Successful.

HAMLEY, LIEUT.-GEN. SIR EDWARD B., R.A., K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Conservative candidate for Birkenhead, is the fourth son of the late Admiral Sir William Hamley, K.L., by his marriage with Barbara, daughter of Mr Charles Ogilvy, of Lerwick, and was born in 1824. He was educated at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and entered the army in 1843. He served throughout the Crimean War, taking part in the battles of the Alma, Balaklava, and Inkerman. He has successively filled the offices of Professor of Military History at the Staff College, Sandhurst, member of the Council of Military Education, Commandant of the Staff College at Sandhurst, Her Majesty's Chief Commissioner for the Delimitation of Bulgaria, of the Turco-Russian frontier, supervisor of the evacuation of the territories ceded by Turkey to Greece, and commander of the second division of the Expeditionary Force in Egypt. Lieut.-Gen. Hamley is the author of several works on military subjects. Successful.

HOARE, EDWARD BRODIE, Conservative candidate for the Attercliffe Division of Sheffield, of St. Bernard's, Caterham, Surrey, is the eldest son of the Rev. Edward Hoare, of Tunbridge Wells, honorary canon of Canterbury, by his marriage with Maria Eliza, daughter of Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie, first baronet. He was born in 1841, and educated at Tunbridge School and Trinity College, Cambridge. He was formerly partner in the banking firm of Barnette, Hoares, Hanbury, and Lloyd, and is now a director of Lloyds, Barnette, and Bosanquet's Bank. He is also chairman of the National Bank of New Zealand. Mr Hoare married, in 1868, Katharine, daughter of Rear-Admiral Sir William Edward Parry, the Arctic explorer. Unsuccessful.

HOLLAND, SIR HENRY THURSTAN, Conservative candidate for Hampstead, is the son of the late Sir Henry Holland, physician to the Queen, and was born in 1825. He was educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge, and was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple (of which he is a Benchler) in 1849. He was the draftsman of the Common Law Procedure Bill of 1851 and two subsequent Acts, and was for some years permanent Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies. He resigned this post in 1874 in order to become a candidate for the borough of Midhurst, which he represented from that time until the end of the last Parliament. On the formation of Lord Salisbury's Government he was appointed Financial Secretary of the Treasury, and was subsequently transferred to the office of Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education. Sir Henry Holland is

a K.C.M.G. and a deputy-lieutenant for Middlesex. Successful.

HOPWOOD, CHARLES HENRY, Liberal Candidate for Stockport, is the fifth son of Mr J. S. S. Hopwood, of Montigu Place, Russell-square, London, solicitor. He was educated at King's College, London, and was called to the bar at the Middle Temple in 1853. He joined the northern circuit, and was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1874. In the same year he was returned for Stockport. Mr Hopwood was elected a Bencher for Middle Temple in 1873. He was again returned for Stockport at the general election in 1880. In Parliament Mr Hopwood opposed flogging in the army, supported the Employers Liability Act in its passage through the House of Commons, and brought in a bill to give the option of affirmation instead of oath whenever an oath is required by law. He has also taken an active part against compulsory vaccination.

HOULDSWORTH, WILLIAM HENRY, Conservative candidate for North-West Manchester, of Norbury Booths Hall, Knutsford, is the son of the late Mr Henry Houldsworth, of Coltness, N.B., by his marriage with Helen, daughter of Mr James Hamilton, of Glasgow, and was born at Manchester in 1834. He was educated at St. Andrew's University, and has been largely engaged in business as a cotton spinner at Manchester. He is a member of the Royal Commission on Trade Depression, and represented Manchester from October, 1883, till the dissolution. Mr Houldsworth married Elizabeth Graham, daughter of Mr Walter Crum, of Thornliebank, Renfrewshire. Successful.

IRWELL, LAWRENCE, Liberal candidate for the Eddisbury Division of Cheshire, is the only son of the late Mr Isaac Irwell, of Headingley, Yorkshire, by his marriage with the daughter of the late Mr Lawrence Myers, of London. He was born in 1859, and was educated at University College School, London, and Wadham College, Oxford. Unsuccessful.

JACKSON, SIR HENRY MATHER, Liberal candidate for South Monmouthshire, of Llantilio Court, Abergavenny, is the eldest son of the late Sir Henry Mather Jackson, who for a few days was a Judge of the High Court of Justice, by his marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Thomas B. Blackburne, of Birkenhead. He was born in 1855, educated at Harrow and at Trinity College, Cambridge, and called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1881. He is a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Monmouthshire. Successful.

JENNINGS, LOUIS J., Conservative member for Stockport, is the son of the late Mr John Jennings, of Suffolk, by his marriage with Sarah, daughter of Mr Louis Michel. He was born in the year 1837, and was educated at private schools. He is the author of "Republican Government in the United States,"

"Field Paths," "Rambles among the Hills," and the editor of "The Croker Papers," and other works. He was formerly editor of the *Morning Chronicle* and of the *London Review*, &c. Successful.

KEMPSTER, JOHN, Liberal candidate for the Enfield Division, is the son of the late Rev. John Kempster, minister, of Norwich, and Elizabeth, daughter of the late Captain Westbeech, R.N., of Sandwich. He was born in Cheshire in 1836, and was educated at Rarnsgate and Hatfield. Mr Kempster is a publisher, and a director of the Artists', Labourers', and General Dwellings Company. Unsuccessful.

KENNEDY, WILLIAM RANN, Liberal candidate for Birkenhead, is the eldest son of the Rev. W. J. Kennedy, vicar of Barnwood, for several years one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. He was born in 1846, educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, where he graduated as a senior classic in 1863, and was subsequently elected Fellow of Pembroke College. In 1870 he was called to the Bar, and in 1871 and 1873 acted as private secretary to Mr Goschen when President of the Poor Law Board and First Lord of the Admiralty. Mr Kennedy settled in Liverpool in 1873, where he practised at the local bar till 1882, when he returned to London, and has recently been appointed a Queen's Counsel. He married Cecilia, daughter of Mr George Richmond, R.A. Unsuccessful.

KENYON, HON. GEORGE THOMAS, Conservative candidate for the Denbigh District, of Kinmel Park, Abergele, North Wales, is the eldest surviving son of the third Baron Kenyon, by his marriage with the Hon. Georgina, fourth daughter of the fourth Lord Walsingham. He was educated at Harrow and at Christ Church, Oxford, and was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1869. He is a magistrate for Flintshire and Shropshire, and held a commission in the North Shropshire Yeomanry from 1873 to 1878. Mr Kenyon married, in 1875, Florence Anna, daughter of Mr John H. Leche, of Carden Park, Chester. Successful.

G. B.

#### RAINFALL AT WILMSLOW, CHESHIRE, IN 1885.

I enclose rainfall table for this district for last year. It may possibly interest some of your readers:—

|                 | inches. | Days. |
|-----------------|---------|-------|
| January .....   | 1.64    | on 12 |
| February .....  | 2.53    | " 19  |
| March .....     | 2.01    | " 16  |
| April .....     | 1.575   | " 14  |
| May .....       | 1.892   | " 19  |
| June .....      | 3.54    | " 12  |
| July .....      | 1.525   | " 9   |
| August .....    | 1.48    | " 13  |
| September ..... | 3.91    | " 24  |
| October .....   | 5.31    | " 23  |
| November .....  | 2.66    | " 14  |
| December .....  | 1.88    | " 12  |

Total during year ..... 29.952 " 187  
Rainfall for 1884..... 27.795 " 156

Wilmslow.

Jno. HOLDEN, F.R. Met. Soc.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1886.

## Notes.

RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT SIXTY  
YEARS AGO.

## I.

Early in the year 1823 a serious riot took place in Wellington-square, Stockport. The Hibernian fraternity had then gained a strong settlement in this locality, the only one of any note which then existed in Stockport. At this time a notorious blichouse stood at the bottom of the square, partly on the site of the premises occupied by the late Mr Swann, furniture broker. This house was much nearer Chester-gate, being in line with the shops still standing in Underbank. It was called "The Briton's Protection," and had a swing sign over the door, on one side of which was painted the representation of a sailor, on the other side of a soldier. This house of ill-fame, for it was little better, had been the rendezvous of the soldiers billeted at the barracks adjoining, and a number of fallen women, and many dark deeds were reported as having been committed in this den of infamy; amongst them the following: A Cheshire farmer had been to the Stockport market to sell his produce. Having done so, and whilst in the act of returning home, he was enticed to enter this den of rogues and rascals. He was made drunk, and whilst in that state he was robbed of his money and afterwards thrown into the Tin Brook. The brook being flooded at the time, his body was carried into the river Mersey, and was never again recovered.

On the afternoon preceding the riot a number of Englishmen and Irishmen had been drinking in this public, a quarrel took place, and a fight followed, the combatants being an Englishman and an Irishman. The Irishman was getting the worst of the fight, when his countrymen sallied out to summon reinforcements from the neighbourhood. These arrived, and the larger party also having received additional aid, a general fight took place, which lasted during the latter portion of the night. The Irish party showed much tact in this affray. A brick wall then stood round the corner at the top of the square. The Irish pulled this wall down, and got missiles out of the debris to hurl at their assailants. A number of Irish got on the roofs of the houses, and fired brickbats indiscriminately on the people below. At last, after a desperate encounter, the

Irish were overpowered, and order was again restored, the sequel being a number of broken heads and limbs.

I went to view the scene of the battle the following day, and found the effects of the fight visible in all directions, the greatest damage being done to the windows and window-shutters. The "Briton's Protection" got more than its share of demolition; there was scarcely a whole pane of glass to be seen in any of the windows. The swing sign with the soldier and sailor was entirely demolished.

During the month of June in that year a great mortality took place amongst the children of Stockport, 110 being buried in the parish churchyard alone during that short period. There were then many other graveyards in use in the town, viz., St. Peter's, Tabernacle Chapel, the Society of Friends, Mount Tabor Chapel, the Unitarian Chapel off High-street, and Hanover Chapel, Heaton Norris—which was then one of the most fashionable (if I may be allowed to use that word) places of worship in the town, whilst under the pastorate of the Rev. N. K. Pugsley, a very popular divine. Taking these other places of interment and the much smaller population of Stockport into consideration, we must admit that the mortality was very great.

It was in this year, too, that the fine organ in St. Mary's Church was opened. This instrument was built by Mr Wren, of Manchester, and was then considered by many musicians to be the finest instrument to be found between here and the city of York.

At that time there were no denominational Sunday schools built for that purpose in Stockport, excepting the Stockport Sunday School and a few of its auxiliaries. The Church, Wesleyan, Primitive Methodist, and the Mount Tabor people had their Sunday schools in old disused silk mills. It was in 1823 that a subscription was started towards erecting that noble building, the National Sunday School, which was opened three years later, and now is one of the ornaments to Wellington-road South.

This year was also made memorable in Stockport by the arrival of Lieutenant Back (the Arctic explorer) in his native town, after being away many years in the Polar regions. A grand banquet took place at which the *élite* of the town attended to do him honour. The gallant



Captain Humphrey, who also had done his country good services as a naval commander, was chairman on the occasion. At this banquet Lieutenant George Back sat between his aged father and Captain Humphrey, and it must have been very gratifying to both father and son to listen to the eulogistic speeches made, and no doubt it would be an incentive to spur young Back on to try to achieve still more by acts of bravery and hardihood. Be this as it may, his future exploits gained for him the approbation and esteem of his Sovereign and countrymen. His name has a honourable place in our histories, and the exploits of Sir George Back, R.N., will be eagerly read by generations yet unborn.

On the 8th of October in this year, gas lamps were first introduced in the Market-place and our principal streets. Prior to this era, the artificial light exhibited in our streets emanated from a few flickering oil lamps. Lanterns were then very useful articles, and there were very few families but what had one or more of them. It was no uncommon sight to see parties going to and from their work in groups, the foremost person carrying the lantern. At this time the *Stockport Advertiser* was in its infancy, being only one year old. Although so young it had begun to make itself heard in the town and neighbourhood. I was much edified the other day by reading a letter of a correspondent, which appeared in one of the *Advertisers* of the year 1823. The writer of this letter, who must have been a long resident in Stockport, complains that there is no suitable place in the town where the inhabitants can hold a public meeting. He mentions about the mayor, the gentlemen of the town, and officials, having met to transact their business in the dark gloomy place at the top of the Meal House-brow, viz., the cellar adjoining the old dungeon, now used by Mr Parkes as a storage for his goods. He also bewails about them having to hold their meetings in the cobweb'd, tumble down Meal House. I can speak personally of the unfitness of the last mentioned place for such purposes, having been in on several occasions.

We had then three public societies existing in Stockport: the Philharmonic Music Society, the Wellington Club, and the Philanthropic Society. The Philharmonic Society, which was made up by the musicians of the town, vocal and instrumental, had their practices and gave their concerts in a room in the Angel-yard, Market-place. This room at one time was the Stockport Theatre. In the year 1823 it was Mr Crabb's (the host of the Angel Inn)

dancing school. There were two approaches to it. Going from the market we had to pass through narrow passage, then turn to the right hand, cross the Angel-yard, pass through an entry, then we were near the entrance to the room. The other approach was from the Underbank. We went to the Cobourg-steps, which led into the Angel-yard. These steps, after being closed to the public for many years, are again now opened. The Wellington Club, which was composed of gentlemen holding extreme views in politics, met at Bulkeley Arms Inn, now the hotel of the same name. The Philanthropic Society was formed of gentlemen with generous hearts, whose pleasure it was to relieve their less favoured brethren in their distresses. This society also held their meetings at the Warren Bulkeley Arms.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

## Replies.

### THE WELLES FAMILY OF SANDBACH.

Seeing a query in your columns respecting the above-named family I send you the following, taken some years ago from a Lancashire paper, and contributed by Mr J. P. Earwaker. He says:—

On a mural tablet, now hidden by the organ, in Wigan Church, is the following inscription, for a careful copy of which I am indebted to the Rev. A. E. F. Gray, late curate of Wigan, now vicar of Poynton [recently preferred to the rectory of Wallasey], in Cheshire, who transcribed it before the organ was put up:—

*On a shield of arms, a lion rampant. (No colours given)*

To the Pious Memory

of RICHARD WELLES late of *Wigan* Gent

and ELLEN his beloved *Wife*

He ye Son of FR. WELLES of *Sandbach* in *Cheshire* Gent

She ye Daughr of ROBT. LEATHERBARROW *Alderman* of *Wigan*

They were both shining Examples

of Piety Charity & Hospitality

Nor were they less remarkable for Conjugal Affection and mutual compliances

His Will was hers; & her Will was His.

Thus they joined in giving *Organs & Ornaments*, to this Church

Beside Thirteen Hundred Pounds

To other Publick Pious Uses.

She died Sept. 1707

He died Mar. 1708.

This Monument of Her sincere Love and Respect  
was given by MRS BOWYER Sister to MRS WELLES  
Who gave Her House in *Millgate*  
To the Head *Schoolmaster of Wigan*  
& was interr'd here  
Sept. 1717.

Richard Welles, commemorated in the above inscription, was the second son of Francis Welles, of Sandbach, co. Chester, gent., and was baptised at Sandbach 20 July, 1684. His elder brother, Thomas Welles, was rector of Macclestone, co. Stafford, and vicar of Sandbach, where he died 2 January, 1728-9. Full particulars of Richard Welles's generous gifts to Sandbach and Wigan parishes, and to the various chapels in each, are given in his will dated 8 Dec. 1707, of which the following is an abstract:—

In the name of God Amen, the 8th Dec. 1707. I Richard Welles of Wigan co. Lanc. gent. My body to the earth from whence it came. To Sarah the younger daughter of Samuel Drinkwater £100; to Ann and Francis, son and daughter of the above said Samuel Drinkwater each £50, to be paid them when 21 years of age. To the poor inhabitants of the township of Sandbach £200, the yearly improvement thereof to be distributed by the churchwardens of the parish of Sandbach upon the feast day of St. Thomas the Apostle. Item I give and bequeath the sum of £100 for the use of the free schoole in Sandbach. To the incumbent of the Parish Church of Middlewich the improvement of £100 to be paid to him and his successors yearly for ever. The like sum unto the Chappel of Church Hulme in the

parish of Sandbach for the same uses, and the like sum unto the Chapel of Goose-tree in the parish of Sandbach for the uses abovesaid for ever. To the Chappel of Billing the like sum for the uses abovesaid for ever. To the Chappel of Hindley the like sum for the uses abovesaid for ever. To the Chappel of Rainford the like sum for the abovesaid uses for ever. Item I give and bequeath the sum of £200 for buying organs for the use of the Parish Church of Wigan. Item I give and bequeath the improvement of £100 to be paid yearly to the Reader of Publick prayers in the said parish Church. Item I give and bequeath £200 either to be made use of towards imploying the Poor of Wigan or the improvement thereof to put Boys to apprentice yearly, and I will that the above said sums be paid or secured within one whole year after my decease, and I request Laurence Booth of Twemlow, Esq. John Parker of Middlewich, gent. John Markland and Wm. Holland of Wigan, gents. to take care the abovesaid sums be well secured for the uses abovesaid, and each of them to have £5 for his trouble. I appoint my loving sister in law Margery Letherbarrow sole executrix, to whom I bequeath all the remainder of my estate both real and personal after the payment of my funeral expences, debts and legacies.

(Signed) R<sup>r</sup>: WELLES.

Small red seal—a lion rampant.

Proved 25 March 1708. No Inventory.

Sandbach.

J. E. CLEMENTS.

~~~~~  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1886.

Notes.

POWNALL FEE, WILMSLOW PARISH:  
THE TOWNSHIP RECORDS.

The following is a continuance from the previous volume of the records relating to this township as found in the old township chest:—

30 December, 1721.

Then Henry Kelsall and Phillip Dale, collectors of the land tax, for the year 1720, made their accounts and it appears to be nothing in their hands. Examined by us inhabitants,

JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JEFF. ALCOCK,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
THOMAS ORRELL,  
WILLIAM HULME.

16 May, 1722.

Then Isaac Roylands made his accounts for Surveyor of Highways for Morley for the year 1720, and hath in hands nothing, as witness our hands being inhabitants,

JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JOSHUA ROYLE,  
GEO. ASHLEY,  
JOHN ROYLANDS.

16 May, 1722.

Then John Mottley (?) made the accounts for Surveyor of Highways for Morley for the year 1721, and it appears he is out of pocket..... 2 6 8 0  
as examined by us inhabitants,

JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JOSHUA ROYLE,  
GEO. ASHLEY.

28th December, 1722.

Then Jeffery Allcock and Wm. Hulme for his land, being constable for last year, made their accounts and owned the receipt of the last sum. And it appears to be in their hands the sum of two pounds ten shillings, which sum of ..... they have paid to Matthew Faulkner, present constable. Examined and approved by us,

JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JNO. ROYLANDS, } Inhabitants.  
JNO. FAULKNER, }

2 2 0 0

28 December, 1722.

Then Jeffery Allcock and Joshua Royle, collectors of the land tax for the year 1721, made their accounts, and it appears to be nothing in their hands.

Examined by us inhabitants.

JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JNO. ROYLANDS,  
JNO. FAULKNER.

3 August, 1723.

Then Roger Bradbury and Jno. Faulkner, collectors of the Land tax for the year 1722, made their accounts, and it appears to be in their hands ..... which is paid to the overseers of the poor.

J. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. WARBURTON,  
JNO. HULME.

0 7 0 0

Then William Wilson made his accounts for Surveyor of Highways for Morley for the year 1722, and hath nothing in hands.

Examined and approved by us,

J. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. WARBURTON

Parish apprenticeship indenture made 25 July, 1723, witnesseth that Hugh Burgess and Isaac Worthington, overseers of Pownall Fee, with the consent of two of his Ma'ties Justices, J. Leigh and J. Davenport, did bind William, son of Daniel Harrison, a poor child of the said township, apprentice to and with John Leigh, of Stockport, a broad-bed weaver, the premium to be fifty shillings. The said master was to teach him his trade, and on every 25th day of December during the said term he was to give the said apprentice one shilling in addition to providing him during the term with suitable meat and clothes.

Signed and } JOHN LEIGH.  
Sealed, }

Witnesses,  
THOMAS BAYLEY,  
JNO. BOULTON.

25 December, 1723.

Then Joshua Royle, being the surviving constable for last year, made his accounts and owned the above sum of £2 2s, and it appears to be in hands the sum of ..... which said sum he continues in his hands being constable. Examined and approved,

0 8 0 0

JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JEFF. ALCOCK,  
JON. HULME,  
JOHN FAULKNER,  
AARON COFFOCK,  
THO. HEALD.

16 July, 1724.

Then Hugh Burgess and William Minney, being collectors for Land tax for last year, made up their accounts, and it appeared to be in their hands Eight shillings and two pence, which I have put in the Chest.

Examined p. us.

JMS. WHITTAKERS.

12 May, 1725.

Then Ralph Parson and Jno. Belton, being collectors for Land Tax last year, made their accounts, and it appears to be in their hands six shillings, which said sum and eight shillings and two pence as above is paid to the overseers of the poor.

Examined and signed by us,

JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JEFF. ALCOCK,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
THOMAS JENKINSON,  
JOHN HULME,  
WILLIAM HULME.

12 May, 1725.

Then Tho. Orrill being Surveyor of the Highways for Morley for 1723, made his accounts, and appears to be out of pocket.....

0 1 0 2

Examined by us,

JEFF. ALCOCK,  
J. WHITTAKERS, } Inhabitants.  
JOSHUA ROYLE,  
JOHN TAYLOR, }

12 May, 1725.

Then Robert Harrison, Surveyor of the Highways for Morley for 1724, made his accounts, and appears to be out of pocket .....

0 0 5 0

Examined by us,

JEFF. ALCOCK,  
J. WHITTAKERS, } Inhabitants.  
JOSHUA ROYLE,  
JOHN TAYLOR, }

Then Joshua Royle, for Richard-  
son's, and George Ashley, made their  
accounts, and appears to be in their  
hands, with what they had last year  
which said sum is paid to Josiah  
Varden and Daniel Burgess, present  
constables.

1 2 0 0

Examined by us,  
JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JEFF. ALCOCK,  
THOMAS WATTS,  
THOMAS JENKINSON,  
JOHN TAYLOR, } Inhabitants.

3 November, 1726.

Then Daniel Burgess, for Stock-  
ton's, and Josiah Varden, for  
Preston's, being constables, made  
their accounts for the year 1724-5,  
and it appears nothing in their  
hands.

Examined by us,  
JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. WARBURTON,  
JOHN HULME,  
THO. HEALD,  
THO. PIERSON, } Inhabitants.

3 November, 1726.

Then Daniel Burgess, for J. Whit-  
takers, and Peter Burgess, for Hugh  
Burgess, of Hoghead Green [Hauke-  
sharte], being constables, made their  
accounts for last year, and it appears  
nothing in their hands.

Examined by us,  
JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. WARBURTON,  
JOHN HULME,  
THO. HEALD, } Inhabitants.

3 November, 1726.

Then Daniel Burgess and Josiah  
Varden made their accounts for col-  
lectors of the Land Tax. There  
appeared in their hands nothing.

Examined by us,  
JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. WARBURTON,  
JOHN HULME,  
THO. HEALD, } Inhabitants.

16 February, 1726-7.

Then Thos. Cash, surveyor of the  
highways for Morley for the year  
1725, made his accounts, and we find  
he hath paid the two last surveyors  
what they were out of pocket, and  
we find he had nothing in his hands.

Examined by us,  
J. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. WARBURTON,  
JOHN ROYLANDS.

16 February, 1726-7.

Then Thos. Cash, surveyor of the  
highways for Morley, and served for  
George Ashley, made his accounts  
[evidently for 1726], and it appears  
nothing in his hands.

J. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. WARBURTON,  
JOHN ROYLANDS.

19 April, 1727.

Then Wm. Wilson and Jno. Kelsall,  
of the Within-tree, made their  
accounts for collectors of the land  
tax, and they appeared in their  
hands nothing.

Examined by us,  
J. WHITTAKERS,  
THOMAS WARBURTON,  
WILLIAM BURGESS,  
WILLIAM WILLSON, } Inhabitants.

21 November, 1727.

Then Peter Warburton and  
Francis Downes made their  
accounts, being constables for last  
year, and Peter Warburton is out of  
pocket four shillings and elevenpence,  
and Francis Downes nothing.

Peter Warburton is paid this sum  
of ..... 0 4 11 0  
this 23 May, 1728.

Examined by us,  
JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
THOMAS WARBURTON,  
his  
THOMAS & P. PIERSON,  
mark  
WILLIAM WILLSON.

In 1727 there is a bond given by James Mather and  
Samuel Mather to the overseers in respect of a bastard  
child of Elizabeth Hulme.

Witnessed by JOHN ROWLINSON,  
RICHARD NEWALL.

Also a certificate by John Wyatt and Nathan Moris,  
overseers of Chorley, in Cheshire, acknowledging the  
settlement of Joseph Torkington, labourer, Mary Tor-  
kington his now wife, and Jane Torkington his  
daughter.

Witnessed by JOHN DOWNS,  
WM. SHAW.

Endorsed by two Justices, C. LEGH,  
PETER DAVENPORT.

23 May, 1728.

Then Francis Downes and Peter  
Warburton made their accounts for  
collectors of the land tax for last  
year appeared in their hands 7 1 2 0  
out of which ye paid Peter  
Warburton being out of pocket  
of the constableness ..... 0 4 11 0

and ye remaining part which is 2 2 2 3  
ye paid William Hulme overseer of  
ye Poore.

Examined by us who subscribe  
our hands by order,

JEFFERY ALCOCK,  
J. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. WARBURTON,  
JNO. ROYLANDS, } Inhabitants

2nd January, 1738-9.

Then Isaac Roylands and Jno. Kelsall, jun., for Jno. Nield made yer accounts being constables for last year, and it appears ye have ten shillings in hands which ye paid to Phillip Dale and Joseph Holt present constables.

Examined by the persons whose names are under written by their order,

JAMES WHITTAKERS,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
HUGH WORTHINGTON,  
JNO. WORTHINGTON,  
WM. HULME,  
JAS. NIELD,  
THO. WARBURTON,  
THOS. PIERSON.

30th January, 1738-9.

Then Tho. Warburton, surveyor of ye Highways in Morley for two years last, and itt appears he hath in his hands sixteen shilling and eightpence, which appears by his accounts which sune is paid J. Whittakers, present overseer, as witness our hands.

JAMES WHITTAKERS,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
DANIEL BURGESS.

We have a peculiar bond dated 1st February, 1738, in lawyer's latin, to which George Robinsen, of Hough, in the parish of Wilmalow, husbandman, William Robinson, also of Hough, husbandman, Mary Robinson, of Newcastle, in the county of Stafford, spinster, and Hannah Robinson, of Withington, in the county of Chester, spinster, are bound to William Hulme and James Kelsall, overseers of the poor of Pownall Fee, in the sum of £100; at the foot is an explanation of the bond in English as follows:—

The condition of this obligation is such that whereas William Robinson, late of Wilmalow, in the county of Chester, bread baker, died intestate, whereby the goods and effects of the said William Robinson became liable to an equal distribution among his sons and daughters, George, William, Thomas, Mary, Hannah, Elizabeth, Tabilla, Sarah, and Katherine Robinson share and share alike. And whereas upon an equal division of the goods and

effects of the said William Robinson, the said William Hulme and James Kelsall (overseers of Pownall Fee) at the special instance and request of the above-bounden George, William, Mary, and Hannah Robinson, did place and put the several and respective shares of the above-named Sarah Robinson and Katherine Robinson into the hands of them, George, William, Mary, and Hannah Robinson, the said Sarah and Katherine Robinson being infants under the age of twenty-one years. We, therefore, the said George, William, Mary, and Hannah Robinson, their heirs or administrators, or any of them, do and shall from time to time and at all times hereafter acquit, discharge, and save harmless the above-named William Hulme and James Kelsall and their successors for the time being, as also the inhabitants of Pownall Fee, of or from all costs, charges, and troubles whatsoever for or by reason of the maintenance, nourishing, or bringing up of the said Sarah and Katherine Robinson, and from all other suits, charges, troubles, and demands touching or concerning the same, then this obligation to be void or else to remain in force. Sealed and delivered

GEORGE AND WILLIAM in the presence of George  
ROBINSON. (Signed) Robinson,  
SAMLL. STREET. the mark and seal of  
WILLIAM SHAW. WILLIAM M. ROBINSON.

Com. Gest.

We, Jonathan Street and John Whittaker, Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish and Township of Mobberley, in the county aforesaid, do hereby own and acknowledge Sarah Steward to be an inhabitant legally settled in our said Parish or Township of Mobberley, as witness our hands this 29th day of May, Anno Dom. 1738.

Signed, sealed, and acknowledged in the presence of } JONATHAN STREET.  
HARRIET OTTIVELL. The mark of  
JONATHAN BARROW. } JOHN M. WHITTAKER.

And allowed by two Justices, H. WRIGHT.  
THO. LEGH.

An order made 28 day of June, 1738, by Charles Legh and Peter Davenport, Esquires, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace and Quorum, concerning a female bastard child born in the Township of Pownall Fee, on the body of Martha Hulme ordering John Simpson, of Bollin Fee, carpenter, the putative father, to pay seven pence per week until the said child shall attain to ten years of age, and the sum of forty-five shillings within three months after the said child shall attain to 10 years of age for the binding of the said child apprentice.

WILLIAM NORBURY.

#### QUAINT OLD PROVERBS ON MARRIAGE.

Hot love is soon cold.  
Wedlock is a padlock.

A ship and a woman are ever repairing.  
Sweetheart and moneybird keep no house.  
A man's best fortune or his worst is his wife.  
A gossip is seldom a good housewife at home.  
Happy is the wooing that is not long in doing.  
In the husband wisdom, in the wife gentleness.  
Husbands are in heaven whose wives chide not.  
Marry your sons when you will, your daughters  
when you can.

He who would the daughter win  
Must with her mother first begin.

He who marries a widow will often have a dead  
man's head thrown in his dish.

The foot on the cradle and the hand on the distaff  
is the sign of a good housewife.

Maids want nothing but husbands, and when they  
have them they want everything.

Houses and riches are the inheritance of fathers, but  
a prudent wife is from the Lord.

Be a good husband, and you'll get a penny to spend,  
a penny to lend, and a penny for a friend.

As the good man saith, so say we;

But as the good woman saith, so must it be.

Heaton Norris.

A. Wood.

#### A STOCKPORT POEM OF THE LAST CENIURY.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for March, 1795,  
appears an "Ode on the Neglect of Humble Merit,"  
written by "F. C." of Stockport. "F. C." was a  
frequent contributor to the *Gentleman's* about that  
period upon poetic subjects, and he seems to have  
possessed in an eminent degree the gift of poesy. The  
ode in question is prefaced with Juvenal's lines,

*Hand facile emergunt quorum virtutibus obstat  
Res angusta domi,*

and then proceeds as follows:—

What time the sky begins to low'r,

And tempest-bearing clouds impend,

When winds conflicting try their pow'r,

And seem as they Creation's self would rend;

What time upon the keen blast's wings

The spirit of the tempest rides,

In ev'ry shatter'd sail yard sings,

And each resisting mast divides;

When hoary waves tumultuous roll,

Inspiring horror in each soul,

Now seeming o'er the clouds to rise,

Denouncing war against the skies,

Now sinking with more dangerous glow

Dreadfully low!

The heart-depressing scene explore,

And pictur'd view the station of the poor!

More troublous than the troubled sea,

When tost in all the fury of the storm,

Was life, O hapless Chatterton, to thee,

Life that assum'd its most terrific form!

Chill Penury, whose iron sway

A wretched part of human race obey,

That never lends a list'ning ear

To Mis'ry's feeble call, or drops a pitying tear,

To thee appear'd in tenfold dight,

Bade thee each various sorrow know,

And prematurely drink thy cup of woe,

Bade cheerless hunger on thy vitals prey,

And all his train of miseries display;

But when too full of horror it became,

And laid thee bare to insult and to shame,

Thou quaff'dst the poison'd bowl, and spurn'dst at  
life and light.

Ah! why, rash youth, thus madly throw

Thyself on thy offended God?

Why fly from great to greater woe,

And court with frenzy an eternal rod?

Thou hadst, alas! no guardian hand to steer

Thy little bark along the sea of life,

No skilful pilot for thine aid was near,

To guard thee from the rocks of care and strife!

But for a little while

Didst thou thyself endure the toll,

Untaught the proper course to find,

Nor tacking to the tide nor wind,

But boldly striving through the boist'rous main

An unimpeded passage to obtain,

High on the foamy wave thy bark was tost,

Then dash'd with fury down, ill-fated youth, and lost!

Old Homer, too—the Grecian pride,

And wonder of the world below,

Who e'en Apollo's self out-vied

In painting to the sight the Trojan woe:

Who nobly snatch'd from total death

Though they resign'd their vital breath,

The stern Pelides and the Atrean race,

And ev'ry warlike chief that work'd a deed

Worthy of the glorious meed,

Of fame eternal and unfading praise;

By whom the beautiful Helen lives,

From whom a thousand charms receives,

Which echo to the voice of fame,

Who else would have forgot the fatal name—

His life in penury obscurely led,

And sang his rhapsodies to gain his bread.

What though they both divinely sang,

And charmed the listening ear

With verses such as God might deign to hear;

What though mellifluous sounds distill'd from either  
tongue;

Though Phæbus lent to each his lyre,

And all the tuneful sister-choir

Their noblest gifts bestow'd,

Yet even could not they award

The shafts which poverty prepar'd,

But saw them sink beneath the galling load;

Nor when in life alone, ye hapless pair,

Did ye sharp taunts and biting insults bear;  
 E'en after death detraction base  
 Essay'd your living glory to efface,  
 And cruelly despoil each glorious name  
 Of its just honours and immortal fame.

O ye, the favour'd sons of Britain's isle,  
 Whose days are smooth as yon unruffled stream,  
 On whom dame Fortune casts her sweetest smile,  
 Whose hours with unimpeded pleasures teem,  
 Seek out for "worth by poverty depress'd,"  
 And kindly cheer it with your fost'ring care,  
 Nor longer let it lie unknown, unblest,  
 But rise, and all its genuine lustre bear.  
 Thus shall your never dying name,  
 Enrol'd in all the lists of fame,  
 To late posterity descend;  
 Sooner shall cease to sing the virgin choir,  
 Sooner Apollo cease to strike the lyre,  
 Than the loud voice of fame forget the Muses' friend!  
 Britannia, too, will thank your guardian care,  
 And you her only sons of genuine birth declare.

"F.C." was evidently a poet of whom Stockport has reason to be proud, and somebody will probably be

able to tell us who it is the letters represent in *propria persona*.  
 AN OLD RESIDENT OF STOCKPORT.

## Queries.

THE WRIGHTS OF OFFERTON AND MOTTRAM.—I often used to be puzzled as a lad when looking at the monument of the Wright family in the Stockport Parish Church, what it all meant and what it was about. Since reaching maturer years this perplexity has developed into curiosity. For information on the subject I have turned to Dr Heginbotham's history of Stockport in the Free Library, but find that he has merely reproduced the contents of the tablet without a word of comment. To antiquarians and others versed in these matters it may be all very plain, but to the majority of people it is simply so much Latin. I should be glad, therefore, if some reader of your *Notes and Queries* would supply us with an intelligible account of it and of the family as well, which is my apology for troubling you with this query.

Hyde.

E. W.

~~~~~  
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1886.

## Notes.

### CHESHIRE CUSTOMS, IDIOMS, METAPHORS, AND PROVERBS.

The following is the text of Mr Holland's paper on the second part of this subject—idioms, metaphors, and proverbs. He says:—

During the last three or four years I have been collecting materials for a Cheshire Glossary for the English Dialect Society, and I have had correspondents in various parts of the county. In the list of words contributed by my correspondents I found so many proverbial and colloquial expressions, so many idiomatic and metaphorical phrases, and so many odd illustrative sentences, which were not unfrequently clothed in very racy language, that I began to think our dialect must be rather rich in this kind of literature, and that a collection of Cheshire colloquisms might be of interest to those who, like myself, have a reverence for the quaint, but at the same time generally robust, language which was spoken by their forefathers. I am not quite sure that in carrying out my idea I have really found Cheshire to be different in this respect from other counties, or its language any richer than other languages in idiom and metaphor; in fact I

have, in studying the dialect of Cheshire, also found a great number of instances where a whole train of ideas is expressed by a single word; where one Cheshire word, perfectly intelligible to the natives, could only be translated into ordinary English by a long explanatory sentence; so that I might almost have taken the opposite view, and endeavoured to prove that terseness and not expansiveness was the characteristic of the language. I suppose, therefore, I must come to the conclusion that we are pretty much like our neighbours in both respects. But of one thing we may be certain—namely, that the study of any one of our old local dialects must be of considerable interest in a variety of ways; and so I have collected together some few odds and ends of Cheshire folk-speech that seem to be peculiar, and which will I hope, prove of sufficient interest to be laid before the members of this society. When we come to think of it, perhaps, we shall be inclined to own that Cheshire men very seldom give you a straightforward answer. Perhaps I ought to say a laconic answer; for I do not mean that Cheshire men are given to equivocation in their answers, or that there is the slightest want of sincerity in what they say; but I mean that they have very often a somewhat round-about way of expressing themselves. I once employed an old man at Mobberley, who had worked for my great uncle year

before, a perfect gentleman in his way, in every thought and feeling, who carried this peculiarity to a remarkable extent. Instead of saying "I think it is so and so," he invariably said, "Well, it seems to me as how it might be so and so." A "gradely Cheshire mon," on being asked "Are you Mr Smith?" never by any chance answers you with a simple "yes" or "no," but in a round-about fashion invariably says, "Well, I believe I am." It strikes "foreigners," as we call the inhabitants of other counties, as being an extremely peculiar habit; and I remember a south-country doctor who came to settle in Cheshire, who on one occasion, receiving the same answer, actually said to the man, "But aren't you sure?" I have been present at many rent dinners and "club feasts," and such like "duments," in my time, and I do not know that I ever remember hearing a Cheshire man, on being asked whether he would have any more, say simply "No, thank you." The answer always comes which I am quite sure *will* come, "Not any more this time, thank you." The reservation "this time" is very characteristic. A quick ear will detect just the slightest possible emphasis upon it. It, therefore, not only adds a few words to the sentence, but shows the cautiousness of the Cheshire mind, and appears intended to convey a sort of idea that a simple "No, thank you," might be construed into a pledge of complete abstinence from "flesh meat" or plum pudding for evermore. Now, I cannot help thinking that this predilection for round-about sentences naturally leads to the introduction of idiom and metaphor into a dialect, and I will proceed to give instances of some of the expressions which have struck me as being worth making a note of. But I may just add this by way of further introduction, that I have not, in this paper, attempted any classification of my subject so as to separate idioms, metaphors, and proverbs, and arrange them under their respective heads; but I have taken them from my notes just as they came. Also I have not, as a rule, included proverbs which are given by Ray as originating in Cheshire, because they are already accessible to everyone; nor have I extracted many Cheshire Proverbs from the late Colonel Legh's Glossary, because, if I mistake not, he himself once read a paper to this society upon the same subject, and no doubt he then introduced most of them; and, in fact, a good many of the proverbs he included in his glossary were derived from Ray's comprehensive collection. Occasionally the proverbs and other colloquisms I give will also be found in Ray and Legh; but such examples are given sometimes because I have met with them myself under peculiar circumstances; or because they vary from these versions; or because I have something to add to the explanations which have already been given. The word "adlant" means the headland of a field; the butt at right angles to the rest, upon which the horses turn in ploughing. As an illustration of the metaphorical sense in which this very common word

is used, I may quote the following stories from the *Manchester City News* of February 26th and March 13th 1881:—"A few years ago a competition of Church choirs was organised in Chester Cathedral, to which the parish choir from Tarporley was invited. After the singing all the competing choirs had tea together, the present Lord Derby presiding. Next day a member of the choir (a raw, country lad) was asked how he enjoyed himself, and what sort of a man was Lord Derby. He replied, 'Oi had a grand tay; as mitch as ever aw loiked t' ate. Aw th' singers set at a lung tesble dain th' reawm, an' Lord Derby wer on a 'adlant' at th' eend.' By which he meant a head table placed at right angles to the rest. The second anecdote runs thus:—The writer says: "There is an old traditional story in my family of one of our feminine predecessors, that when she was a young weman, one of the servants in her father's house came running to her, calling out, 'Miss! miss! here's Goodman Twemlow coming, go and take your clogs off!' The answer to this request was, 'No I shan't. I have as many adbutts and adlants as he has.' By which she wished it to be understood that her social position was quite equal to his, and that she had no need to be careful of appearances. "To turn a narrow adlant" is also an old Cheshire proverb which means that one has had a very narrow escape from death or some other calamity. To walk arm-in-arm is known in Cheshire as "linking." In Macclesfield it is called going "arm-i'-link;" and this expression is frequently used metaphorically to imply great familiarity. "He's arm-i'-link wi' him" means that he is very familiar with him. It is also used for courting, as "He's goin' arm-i'-link wi' ahr Polly." The word "auction" is very frequently used in a metaphorical sense to describe a place, a transaction, or a meeting. It is somewhat difficult to explain, and the above meanings are not quite satisfactory. It almost answers to the slang term "lot," as when we speak of a person being "a bad lot," and the connection between lot and auction is obvious. I have heard a dirty, muddy place described as "a dirty auction," and an unruly crowd as "a rough auction." "Back o' behint" is a very expressive idiom. We are not content with saying anything is placed very much in the background, but we put it into the impossible position of being behind the hindmost, as it were; a complete *ultima Thule*. I once lived at a house in a very secluded part of the parish of Mobberley. I certainly had one neighbour, and our gardens were contiguous; but in order to get by the road from one house to the other it was necessary at least to travel two miles. My house was always spoken of, most expressively as "a very back-o'-behint" place. Sometimes the idiom is amplified a little, and such a place is spoken of as "back o' behint, where nobody comes." About Macclesfield the idiom is used metaphorically to describe anyone of slow intellect.



The idiom "bad luck top end" is used in the neighbourhood of Altrincham to describe anyone who is short of intellect, or slightly crazy. "Tha's gitten bad luck top end, tha cumberlin;" the "top end" of a person, of course, meaning his head. This reminds me that we always speak of the upper classes as "the better end of folk." In a dairy county like Cheshire it is only natural that a great deal of importance should be attached to cattle. It is the height of a man's ambition, or rather used to be, to be the possessor of a large stock of milking cows. Accordingly in the old Cheshire May-song we find that to the pretty young daughter of the house is accorded the kindest wish a Cheshire man can give. The verse runs—

"Rise up, the fair maid of this house, put on your gown of silk  
For the summer springs so fresh, green, and gay;  
You are deserving of a man with forty cows to milk;  
Drawing near is the merry month of May."

A man's position and probable wealth are generally judged by the number of cows he milks, *apropos* of which the following is told of a Chelford farmer, who left his son in charge of the farm one day whilst he went to market. On his return he said to the lad—"Well, Jack, has anyone caw'd whelle aw've been off?" "Ah, a mon caw'd." "What did he want?" "Aw dunna know." "Did na ax him?" "Now." "What were he loike?" "Aw houldy know; he looked as if mit keep eighteen hens an' two horses." The farmer would quite understand what sort of a man had called, and though this can scarcely come under the head of either idiom, metaphor, or proverb, it illustrates one roundabout way of forming a conclusion; and is so far metaphorised as to show that when we say a man milks forty or fifty cows it is synonymous with saying that he is a highly respectable man. The danger of playing with edged tools is very forcibly and characteristically expressed by the Cheshire proverb, "You may play with a bull till you get his horn in your eye." "I leave you to guess" is an idiom one very frequently hears. It means you can form your own conclusion. An actual illustration will best show the sense in which it is used. It is said that "Hanged hay never does cattle." The exact meaning of the proverb is that it does not pay a farmer as well to buy his hay as to make it himself. To *doe* the cattle means to fatten the cattle, and an animal which has an aptitude for feeding is said to be "doesome." The reason why the hay which is bought is called "hanged hay" is that in cutting hay for market each truss is hung to a steelyard and weighed to 56lbs, or as near that weight as possible. When a person is wavering between sickness and health we say he is in a "hanging sort of way." I can only explain this idea by supposing it to mean that his health or his life is hanging in the balance as it were, and that a very small weight would turn the scale either way. Of an animal in the same condition it is

said "It'll nother doe nor dee," i.e., it will neither fatten nor die. In the neighbourhood of Mow Cop a betrothed couple is said to "hing" or "hang i'th bellropes" from the time of the third publication of the banns to the actual marriage ceremony. From this circumstance any time of suspense is spoken of idiomatically as "hingin' i'th bellropes." In sawing up timber, especially old timber, joiners very often meet with nails which have become embedded in the wood, and which spoil the tools. These old nails are called "Chowbent grubs." Chowbent is a town in Lancashire where the inhabitants are, or used to be, considered very uncouth. Anything which is one-sided or very uneven is said to be "All on one side, like Parkgate." Parkgate, as you know, consists of one long street with the houses at one side of the road and the sea wall at the other. About Wilmslow they say "All o' one side, like Marston Chapel," but why I am unable to say. I believe sayings like this are not confined to Cheshire. I cannot recollect where I have read it, but I feel sure I have met with the saying applied to some other town in some other county, and also applied to a library in which the books were all one-sided; that is, they were all outside show, being merely dummies, and therefore having no insides. About Wilmslow and on to Stockport there is a common saying *apropos* of a great crowd, or even of a person being so busy as not to know which way to turn. "As thrunk as Cheddle Wakes, no reeam areawt." "Thrunk" means throng, and "no reeam areawt" means no room out of doors. I do not know the exact date of Cheddle Wakes, but they are among the earliest of the Cheshire wakes, and are of a somewhat important character, and presumably a great number of people attend them. At those wakes the ancient morris dancing is still one of the attractions, and it is a pretty sight to see the morris dancers, fantastically dressed with gay ribbons hanging from their arms and legs, dancing in the procession to the crack of the carters' whips, and to a very quaint tune, the notes of which I have not been able to pick up. Very likely modern tunes are now adapted to the dance, but some fifteen or sixteen years ago I saw these morris dancers parading through Stockport to a very peculiar tune, played on fifes, which had quite a traditional ring about it. A variant of the above proverb is "As thrunk as three in a bed." "To draw the nail" is a curious metaphorical expression which is occasionally heard in the neighbourhood of Wilmslow and Mobberley, and which signifies the breaking of a vow or the renunciation of a vow. It originates in an equally curious custom fast becoming obsolete, thus: Two or more men will bind themselves by a vow to do or not to do something—say not to drink beer or any intoxicating beverage. They will then set off together to some wood at a considerable distance from their homes, and drive a nail into a tree, swearing at the same time that they will drink no beer while this

nail remains in *that* tree. If they get tired of being sober, they will meet together and set off to *draw the nail*, literally pulling it out from the tree, after which they resume their drinking habits without violence to the conscientious feelings. "If I can speak" is an idiomatic expression very commonly used in correcting some slip of the tongue; thus: "I went to see him last Tuesday—no, Wednesday, *if I can speak*." Jannock is oatmeal made into a kind of bread. I should think it is almost, if not quite, a thing of the past; but it was evidently very much esteemed, for the word is used metaphorically to signify "the right thing" or any transaction which is straightforward or honest. It corresponds almost exactly in meaning to the French *comme il faut*. Thus: I had cut down some trees in a fence, and had promised the farmer that I would rail the gaps so as to prevent cattle getting in. Before this could be done, however, my tree-fellers went to the tenant and offered to "rid up" the roots for him—of course at his expense. He refused their offer, and in telling me about it afterwards said, "I told them I thought it wasn't hardly 'jannock' for me to rid up the roots till my landlord had put up the fence." "Now, divide it fairly," would be expressed "come, be jannock." We have imported two words from our neighbours in the Principality, namely, "Dym Sassenach," which means, freely translated, "I don't understand English." These we use idiomatically, when we purposely misunderstand anything. For instance, if anyone were to turn a deaf ear to what was being said, the remark might very probably be made, "Oh, it's 'dym Sassenach,' with him;" or, if he would not take a hint it would again be "dym Sassenach" with him.

(To be continued.)

#### MAKING SEA-WATER POTABLE.

Some time ago Mr Thomas Kay, J.P., of Stockport, read a paper before one of the Manchester societies on the above subject, a report of which appeared in the *Stockport Advertiser*. What makes me refer to it here, the other day I was turning over one of the early volumes of the *Annual Register*, when I came across the following:—

##### A METHOD OF MAKING SEA-WATER POTABLE.

Sea-water becomes fresh by making it pass through marine plants. I took a glass vessel of an oblong form, and having partly filled it with sea-water, I put therein a proper quantity of the *algæ marina*, or seaweed, the roots of some of which were naked, and quite clear of any foreign body; but to the rest were still adhering the pebbles that serve to support them in the sea. The vessel being then full I fitted to it a glass head, with its beak, to which I joined a receiver, without losing the joints. There distilled daily from these plants a small quantity of water, very fresh, very potable, and quite free from the ill-taste which water distilled by fire usually retains. This experiment

shows the easiest, surest, and most natural method of making sea-water fresh, a matter of such singular utility to navigators. I doubt not but we may find other plants, among those growing in the sea or on its shores, which may be more effectual to this experiment, and which yield fresh water in greater quantity, as rock-samphire, the brassica marina, or kail-kind, the sea-lentile, &c. Some of these plants may be tried, by examining their growth either in sea-water, or earth sprinkled with it. And hence, in some measure, the conjecture may be very probable, that the real primitive water, which might have existed before animals and plants, is sea-water; and that fresh water is, for the most part, indebted for its origin to the vapours of plants, the respiration of animals, and the exhalation of the earth, attracted by the heat of the sun.

Z.

## Replies.

#### THE WRIGHTS OF OFFERTON AND MOTIRAM-ST. ANDREW.

In reply to your correspondent who seeks for information respecting this family, whose memorial is to be seen in the chancel of the Stockport Parish Church, I proffer the following particulars, taken from notes made at various times respecting them.

Derived originally from Nantwich, where the Wright family were settled early in the fifteenth century, they subsequently acquired by marriage or purchase property in different parts of the county. The Offerton estate was acquired by marriage, as will be seen from the following abstract from the pedigree, in 1583-3, by the marriage of Lawrence Wright, of Nantwich, with Anne, daughter and co-heiress of Ralph Wynnington, of Offerton. His son, Lawrence Wright, of Offerton, acquired the Mobberley estate by his marriage with Margaret, daughter of Robert Robinson, of Mobberley, about 1625, although they did not come into possession until 1676. The Lawrence Wright who then came into possession was grandson of the above-mentioned Lawrence. He would appear to be the first member of the family who served the office of High Sheriff of the county of Chester, being pricked for that office in 1701. He married, in 1677, Eleanor, daughter and co-heiress of the Rev. Samuel Shipton, B.D., rector of Alderley, and it is from him that the present head of the Wright family is derived.

Having briefly cleared the ground down to this date (1677), I now turn to that portion of the family respecting whom your correspondent appears to be in a quandary. Henry Wright, brother of the last-named Lawrence, who was born at Offerton, and who died there in 1711, aged 48, married Elizabeth, daughter of

William Bluck, of London. By her he had two sons, William and Henry, the latter of whom died in 1725, aged 28. In 1720 this William married Frances Alice, daughter of Randle Wilbraham, of Townend, and to whom were born seven children, all of whom are mentioned on the tablet in Stockport Parish Church.

The eldest son, Henry, was born in September, 1727, and died in March, 1728. His brother Randle, the second son, respecting whom the elegiacal lines are written, was born May 2, 1731, and died April 24, 1753. It was for him, says Mr Heginbotham, that the hall at Mottram-St.-Andrew was built, the estate having been purchased by his father in 1738. The daughters all died young, only one, Frances, reaching her twentieth year, and all of them before their father, who died December 13, 1770.

Thus it was that the Offerton and Mottram estates descended to the Wrights of Mobberley by right of inheritance, Henry Offley Wright, the inheritor, being grandson of Lawrence Wright, of Mobberley and Offerton, and cousin and heir of the Randle Wright who died in his twenty-second year, as mentioned above. The following pedigree, as given in *Ormerod*, may help to render the above more intelligible:—

LAWRENCE WRIGHT, of—ANNIE, daughter and co-Nantwich, married Mar., 1595. Died February, 1619; buried at Stockport.

LAWRENCE WRIGHT, of Offerton, born 1598. Died and was buried at Stockport, Feb., 1659.

LAWRENCE WRIGHT, of Offerton and Mobberley, born Jan., 1630, baptised in January 1629, at Stockport.

LAWRENCE WRIGHT, of Mobberley and Offerton, born 1672, heir to his grand-uncle, N. Robinson, 1676. Died 1712. Buried at Mobberley.

HENRY WRIGHT, of Offerton, died 1725, aged 28.

HENRY RANDLE, b. Sep. 1, 1727, d. Mar. 24, 1728.

LAWRENCE WRIGHT, d. March, 1722, aged 8 years.

LAWRENCE WRIGHT, of Nether Knutsford, rector of Market Bosworth 1819, d. Nov. 1840, aged 84.

HENRY WRIGHT, minister of St. Peter's, Stockport, 1816, d. 1864, aged 73.

LAWRENCE MARIA, MARY J. A.

CATHERINE JULIA WRIGHT, sole issue.

Whilst on this subject of Cheshire families I have often thought what a rich field is here presented to the student of local history. In *Ormerod's History of Cheshire* is to be found complete pedigrees of many of them, and these would serve as a reliable basis to work upon for names and dates. Given these, there is scarcely a family therein referred to but which at some period or other afforded examples of those "chief of men" of whom the county of Chester is so proud, and justly so. *Ormerod's History of Cheshire* is a noble and magnificent work, but to the majority of readers it is inaccessible, seeing that it can only be found among the treasures of some private collection, with here and

there a set at the public libraries. Heginbotham's *Stockport* and Earwaker's *East Cheshire* are also beautiful and trustworthy records of such portions of the county history as their titles indicate, but these, like Ormerod, only in a lesser degree, are equally as little known or appreciated by the public. If some reader or correspondent would take up the subject in the way indicated, it could not help but be a most valuable aid from an educational point of view, and would serve as a medium to scatter a few rays of the light that is therein hidden.

I shall be pleased to render what aid I can in this direction, and trust to see the subject taken up with spirit in *Notes and Queries*.

A.D.G.

Manchester.

## Queries.

**A CURIOUS WELSH CUSTOM.**—That the inhabitants of the Principality are a peculiar people goes without saying, and as such they possess many customs and traditions that are unintelligible to ordinary Englishmen. Here is one. It is in the shape of a printed circular, and is intended to be sent to friends and relatives of the bride and bridegroom:—

WENALLT, LLANGWETHO,

JANUARY 7th, 1876.

As I have entered the MATRIMONIAL STATE, I am encouraged by my friends to make a BIDDING on the occasion, at Ty'nllone, near Llangwetho, on Friday, the 31st day of January, 1876, when and where the favour of your good and agreeable company is most humbly solicited, and whatever donation you will be pleased to bestow will be

thankfully received and cheerfully repaid whenever called for on a similar occasion, by

Your most obedient servant,

[EVAN DAVIES.

*My father and sister desire that all gifts of the above nature due to them be returned to me on the said day.*

From the above it would appear that on the occasion of a marriage the relatives and friends of the contracting parties are not only asked to contribute towards the initial expenses of housekeeping, but are expected to do so. There is a kind of mutual understanding that what is contributed in this manner is looked upon more as a loan than a gift, the same to be repaid in money or in kind when an opportunity presents itself in the family of the giver, and which the above Evan Davies in the circular above quoted promises to do.

To many the concluding paragraph relating to the father and sister may require explanation. From it one is led to conclude that the father and sister in times past contributed to "biddings" on their own account, that the father, whom we are led to presume was a widower, did not again intend to enter the "matrimonial state," handed over his claims on the generosity of his friends to his son. But the case of the sister opens up a host of suppositions. Perhaps she was a confirmed old maid; perhaps she was not, but did not intend to marry; or perhaps she was prompted to the act by a love and regard that only a sister can show to a brother.

Not only, however, are these "biddings" confined to weddings, but are also called into requisition on the occasion of a death. In this way they performed much the same service to the bereaved as do the burial societies that exist in England. Perhaps some other could throw additional light on the subject.

CAMERO-BRITON.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT SIXTY YEARS AGO.

In passing through the old principal thoroughfares of Stockport an observant pedestrian will notice a great similarity in the size and style of the better class of dwellings in these streets. He will observe that they are chiefly three stories in height and three windows in breadth. Many of these buildings are now shops, tell their own ages, and give the initials of their founders' names, either en-

graved on a stone slab inserted in the front wall of the dwelling or inscribed on the top of the leaden pipes which carry off the rain from the roofs. Any one reading these inscriptions will see that these dwellings were mostly erected between the year 1715 and the year 1730. This suggests to my mind that Stockport was in a flourishing state about that time. There is no doubt that the silk trade had gained a firm footing in the town, and that some of these large dwellings were the residences of the master silk manufacturers. Judging from appearances, very few improvements were made in our streets and dwellings from the year 1730 to the

year 1823—nearly a hundred years. During that period the silk trade had almost died a natural death, and the cotton trade in its turn had gained a firm footing in the town. Many large cotton mills had been erected, and a few of the silk mills were converted into cotton mills.

In the year 1823 Mr Peter Marsland's colossal works in the Park were in full work manufacturing cotton, and turning it out in appearance equal to the finest Irish linen. One portion of the works was devoted to manufacturing black and blue woollen cloth, and at the above date Mr Peter Marsland was at the height of his popularity as a woollen cloth manufacturer. King George the Fourth was wearing a coat made from cloth manufactured at the celebrated Stockport Woollen Works. Mr John Cheetham, who was Mayor of Stockport in the year 1800, and who built the Green Bank House, on the Old-road, Heaton Norris, and resided there many years, owned and worked the large mill in Mersey-street near the Park Bridge. Mr Joseph Lane, who was Mayor of Stockport in the year 1816, had a large mill in Newbridge-lane, which he worked with the greatest regularity for a very long time. This mill was burned down. Stringer's mill in Newbridge-lane was in full work at this time. Mr Apellas Howard, who built the Sparth House in Stitch-lane (now the residence of Mr W. Wigglesworth), owned and worked the large mill in Howard-street, Portwood. Mr George Parrott, a very popular character in his day, also had his works in Howard-street. A large portion of Mr Knott's brewery, in the same street, had been let as a cotton mill, and was being worked by Mr George Smith, afterwards "mine host" of the Angel Inn, in the Market. Mr John Garside was carrying on the dual business of an iron-founder and cotton spinner. The foundry was at the entrance to Pool-lane, and the cotton mill was at the other end of the same lane. Only the site of this mill is to be seen now, the mill having been burned down. Mr Garside had built himself a large mansion in Brinnington, and he and his family were residing at it in 1823. This mansion was afterwards owned and occupied by the Howard family. Mr Henry Barlow owned and worked with great regularity the mill adjoining the Millstone publichouse, Portwood. This gentleman had also built himself a large dwelling in Bredbury, Highfield Hall. The Howard brothers, John (captain of the Stockport troop of the Cheshire Yeomanry Cavalry), William, and Cephas, were working their extensive cotton mill in Portwood

with success. Mr James Marshall, senior, had just erected the first portion of the Palmer Mills, in Portwood. This firm, afterwards Marshall and Sons, ultimately became the largest manufacturers of cotton in the kingdom. Mr Thomas Fernley, senior, who erected the Avenue House in Portwood, now the Gas Office, and resided there for a long period, had his numerous cotton spinning works in Portwood. He had six sons, namely, Thomas, Samuel, David, John, William, and Robert. Thomas commenced cotton manufacturing in the Wear Mills about the year 1823. At that time Samuel was spinning on a jenny for his father. David was serving his apprenticeship to Mr Cawley, draper, of this town. Robert attended Mr Brentnall's day school, in Portwood (now the Working Men's Club), and never followed any occupation afterwards; he lived and died a gentleman bachelor. Samuel afterwards kept a day school, in the neighbourhood of King-street West:

I will here relate an anecdote concerning this rather eccentric Samuel Fernley. Mr Fernley had for a neighbour an old pensioner, who had seen much service, and had been in many battles during the twenty-one years of the Peninsular war. This old veteran, who took great pleasure in relating his air-breadth escapes and exploits in battle, was always a welcome guest at Mr Samuel Fernley's house. Both he and the old soldier were of a social disposition. They had been spending a happy time of it on one occasion at Mr Fernley's until the small hours in the morning. The old soldier had been telling of his daring exploits, and meanwhile both partook freely of their accustomed potation, and both of them had got rather jolly. The old soldier had told many incredulous tales during this carousal, and his friend felt convinced that every lie was not true. Mr Fernley's and the old soldier's back door opened to the same yard, where there was an ashpit which had been recently emptied. In the wall surrounding this ashpit was an aperture wide enough for anyone to pass through where the ashes were emptied. The soldier, in toddling towards his own home, toddled through the aperture, and fell into the ashpit. Mr Fernley was in the act of locking his back door, prior to going to bed, when he heard someone crying in a sepulchral tone, "Help, help, help." Never backward in defending the helpless, he went, candle in hand, to the place whence the cry proceeded. When there, he elevated his candle to get a glimpse of the interior, and inquired what was the matter below. The poor soldier, almost

reathless, said he was in such a fix as he never was in his life before. "I am in a hole and cannot get out." Then Mr Fernley addressed the old soldier in the following language: "What is that to thee, thou that has travelled east, west, north, and south; that has been with Wellington throughout his glorious campaign; that has been in the battles of Salamanca, Valmiera, and Vittoria, and was at the siege of Badajoz, both times, and at Roderigo and finished up at Waterloo. Thee, that has slain thy tens of thousands, and ever came off victorious, and cannot help thyself out of a hole like this? Thea may lie theer, and be hanged to thee. I shall not help thee out." Mr Fernley returned to his house and left the old soldier to get out of the ash-pit as best he could.

It was in the year 1826 when I first saw Mr John Fernley. At that time he took a great interest in the welfare of the Wesleyan Sunday schools, and frequently came to Tiviot Dale Schools and delivered short addresses to the scholars, myself being one at the time. I never saw him after that. He went to reside in Manchester, and built a large cotton mill there, working it successfully until it was burned down about the year 1847. After this catastrophe he went to reside in Southport as a private gentleman. For generations to come the name of John Fernley will be revered by the people of Southport for his many munificent gifts to that town.

Mr William Fernley's name will be long remembered in Stockport. He was for many years a member of our town council, and gained the approbation of all the members of the council and the public in general for the straightforward and upright way he transacted his business. Mr William Fernley and Mr William Bradley owned and worked the Higher Hillgate cotton mill many years. Subsequently Mr Fernley went to reside at Southport, where he died a few years ago.

I intend to continue my recollections of the time of Mr Robert Hardy's mayoralty in my next paper.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

# PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY OF CHESHIRE.

VI.

George II. was the only son of George I., and was born in 1683 at Hanover. He was created Duke of Cambridge in 1706, but never visited England till after his father's accession, so that his education was altogether German. In 1705 he married Caroline

Wilhelmina, of Anspach, by whom he had eight children, the eldest of whom, Frederick Louis, Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, was born in 1707, but who died in 1751, leaving a numerous family.

The accession of King George to the throne on the death of his father, June 11, brought with it no change of policy, for he retained his father's ministers in office, and Walpole continued for nearly fifteen years to be the moving power of Government. For this he was largely indebted to the influence of the queen, whose good will he had cultivated, and to whom he had a promised jointure of £100,000, providing he was retained in office. Consequently, when Parliament met on June 27, one of the first motions of that astute minister was to propose that the whole of the revenue of the Civil List, amounting to £830,000, should be allowed the king for life in place of the £700,000 settled on George I. The House contained but one man who had the courage to raise his voice in opposition. This was William Shippen, the member for Newton, and son of the rector of Stockport. Regardless of the fact that he had once suffered imprisonment for his want of loyalty to the House of Hanover, that staunch Jacobite, and one of Cheshire's "chief of men," declared that the Civil List of Queen Anne had amounted only to £500,000, and that the same sum had been twice voted during the late king's reign; that the highest sum granted to George I. was £700,000, and it had been hoped that considerable retrenchments would be made, especially in the items of journeys to Hanover. Not one voice, however, was raised to support him, and the whole £830,000 were voted, as well as the £100,000 to the queen, without remonstrance. Immediately after Parliament was dissolved (August 7, 1727).

The new Parliament met January 28, 1728, when Walpole found that he had 427 staunch supporters in the House. The representatives from Cheshire were:—

1 GEORGE II.

Met January 28, 1728. Dissolved April 18, 1734.

CHESHIRE—Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.

Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, of Combermere, bart.

CHESTER—Sir Richard Grosvenor, bart.

Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

This is the first time that the city of Chester was represented by two members of the Grosvenor family, both being the sons of Sir Thomas Grosvenor, Bart., who represented the city during the reigns of Charles II., James II., and William III. On the death of Sir Richard in June, 1733, he was succeeded in the representation by his younger brother Robert—

January 24, 1733.

CHESTER—Robert Grosvenor.

Hugh Warburton, Esq., of Winnington, came out as a candidate in opposition, but he retiring, Richard Manley, Esq., of Lacie, near Chester, was nominated,

but was unable to overthrow the Grosvenor interest. Sir Thomas Grosvenor, who succeeded to the title on the death of his brother Richard, died at Naples February 4, 1733, he being succeeded in the title by his next and only surviving brother Robert, who was also his colleague in the representation of the city. On the death of Sir Thomas the vacancy in the representation was filled by the return of—  
**CHESTER**—Sir Charles Bunbury, bart.

In this Parliament Sir Robert Walpole introduced his great Excise Scheme, by which he proposed to remedy the frauds and evasions of duties, which in some instances amounted to two-thirds of the customs chargeable, especially upon tobacco and wines. But political economy was as yet not sufficiently advanced to render his views intelligible to the many, and the opposition outside the House was so violent that Walpole was obliged to abandon the measure, although it had met with the approbation of the majority of the House. Encouraged by this victory, the Opposition, in the next session, endeavoured to obtain the repeal of the Septennial Act, urging as one reason that under that Act, which was itself a violation of the rights of the people, the Riot Act had been introduced, by which any ignorant justice of the peace could, by simply reading a proclamation, order any number of honest and innocent men to be shot; that under it the South Sea Act had been passed, and the proposed reforms in the excise nearly so. Walpole, in his reply, used all the stock arguments in advocacy of septennial in preference to triennial Parliaments, which, stripped of their sophistry, amounted to the fact that in triennial Parliaments the people had too much power and the ministers too little over the members of Parliament, the very reasons which are unanswerable ones for that term of Parliament, and on the division the majority stood by him, and the continuance of the Septennial Act was determined by 247 against 184.

This Parliament was dissolved April 18, 1734, and the elections which followed were conducted with immense party heat. Each side did all in its power, by fair means and foul, to increase its adherents. Sir Robert Walpole used all the persuaves for which he became so famous, and, if we are to believe the journals of the day, the Opposition were not at all behind him. They made ample use of the Septennial Act, the Riot Act, the excise scheme, etc.; but when Parliament met in January the following year, it was soon discovered that, though less, the Whig majority was as steady as ever. Towards this Cheshire lent all its aid, and returned—

8 GEORGE II.

Met January 14, 1735. Dissolved April 28, 1741.

**CHEESHIRE**—Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
 John Crewe, of Crewe, junior, esq.

**CHESTER**—Sir Robert Grosvenor, bart.  
 Sir Charles Bunbury, bart.

The other two candidates for the city of Chester were Richard Manley and Hugh Williams, the result of the poll being:—

Sir R. Grosvenor (W) 521 | Richard Manley (C)... 49  
 Sir C. Bunbury (W)... 516 | Hugh Williams (C)... 49

Early in the following year the Prince of Wales married Princess Augusta of Saxe Gotha, and it was an ominous circumstance that the address of congratulation on this occasion was moved, not by the king's own Ministers, but by the king's own Opposition. Pulteney was the mover, and it was supported by two young men returned to Parliament for the first time, and who that evening made their maiden speeches in the House, and in them burst suddenly forth with that splendour which was destined to give transcendent through many years. They were William Pitt, afterwards Lord Chatham, and Lord Lyttleton.

Nothing of special moment occurred in this Parliament until soon after the opening of its last session November 18, 1740, when a motion was made having for its object the impeachment of Walpole for having led the country into a war with Spain and other continental powers, when in truth he was most strenuous in his opposition to such war, but to which he finally consented rather than resign. The fate which ordinarily awaits an English minister who may be so unfortunate as to be in power at the time of a foreign disaster now overtook Walpole, and on the motion of condemnation there commenced a series of speeches from Pitt, Lyttleton, and others, in which the whole life and policy of Walpole were analysed with all the keenness, completeness, and ability which party feeling and such men furnished for this great occasion: but the want of unanimity in the Opposition on the question soon became apparent. Edward Harley, the brother of the late Earl of Oxford, who was impeached and imprisoned at the instance of Walpole, and in whom that minister for that reason had no bitter opponent, said that although he opposed the measures of the administration because he thought them wrong, and considered that the state of the nation was deplorable from misgovernment, he was not prepared to lay the whole blame of those measures on one man; that the man under censure had no claims on his forbearance, but he desired to be guided by facts and evidence, and not by private opinions and feelings, and was therefore glad of that opportunity of returning good for evil, and do that honourable gentleman and his family the justice they had denied to the Earl of Oxford. With that he left the House, followed by his relative, Robert Harley. This took the Opposition by surprise, but that surprise was greatly heightened when Shippen—"the thorough Shippen," as he was called—also declared that he would not join in the ruin of the assailed minister, and with that he withdrew with thirty-four of his party.

This was a terrible blow to the designs of the Oppo-

alation, and it has been attempted to account for it by the statement that shortly before this time Walpole had discovered the correspondence of a friend of Shippen's with the young Pretender, thereby placing his life in danger as a traitor; that Shippen had waited on Walpole and solicited his clemency in the matter, which Walpole had readily granted, with the remark: "Mr Shippen, I cannot hope that you will vote with my administration, for with your principles I have no right to expect it; but I only require that, whenever any question is brought forward in the House affecting me personally, you will recollect the favour I have now granted you." But the conduct of Shippen is sufficiently clear without this explanation. He was an honest and determined Tory and Jacobite. Money was the last thing which would influence him. Walpole himself declared that he was about the only man he could not purchase. "I will not say," he often observed, "who may be corrupted, but I will say who is incorruptible, and that is Will Shippen." He refused a bribe of £1000 from the Prince of Wales. It was a matter, therefore, of the simplest political common sense which guided him and his following. He was bent on restoring the Pretender; but he and his fellow Jacobites knew that this was only an attempt of the discontented Whigs to turn out Walpole, and to preserve much the same measures that led to no result desired by them, and therefore they would have no concern in it.

Walpole's speech in reply to this charge has justly been deemed his masterpiece, and on its conclusion the motion was rejected by 290 votes against 106.

Parliament was prorogued on the 25th of April following, and as its term of seven years had nearly expired, it was soon after dissolved (April 28), and writs were issued for a new election, returnable June 25, 1741. The Cheshire elections resulted as follows:—

15 GEORGE II.

Met December 4, 1741. Dissolved June 18, 1747.

**CHESHIRE**—Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
John Crewe, jun., of Crewe, esq.

**CHESTER**—Sir Robert Grosvenor, bart.  
Sir Charles Bunbury, bart.

The long period of peace which had marked the administration of Walpole was at length terminated by the breaking out of war with Spain in 1739, already referred to. The cause for this war was to question the right of search which the Spanish Government had instituted with regard to English vessels visiting the Spanish Indies. The first event of the war was the capture of Portobello by Admiral Vernon, which was followed in 1740 by an expedition to the South Seas under Commodore Anson, which at first proved disastrous owing to the storms encountered off Cape Horn, but finally triumphed through the happy combination of skill, intrepidity, and prudence of its com-

mander, who returned in June, 1744, with a rich booty valued at half a million sterling, having circumnavigated the globe. Another expedition under Vernon sailed in 1741 to the West Indies, consisting of 115 ships manned by 15,000 sailors, and carrying a land force of 12,000 men. Its object was the surprise of Carthage, then the strongest fortified fort in South America; but owing, it is said, to a want of unanimity in the councils of the officers in command, the attempt entirely failed with the loss of many thousands of English soldiers, who perished bravely in an attempt to storm the fortifications.

The conduct of Vernon, though he had been the idol of the Opposition and not of the Ministry, enormously increased the unpopularity of Walpole, and the general election which soon after followed was seized upon to load that minister with all the weight of the unsuccessful war. The result of the Cheshire elections to this Parliament (1741) are given above. On December 4 the King opened the new Parliament, and conscious of his own contemptible figure after the submission to French dictation in Hanover, he took care to remind it that he had commenced the war only at the urgent desire and advice of both Houses, and that he had been particularly counselled to direct our naval efforts towards America. On the motion for an address to the throne another determined attack was made, Lord Noel Somerset moving that His Majesty should be desired not to engage this kingdom in a war for the defence of his Hanoverian domains. This was seconded by the redoubtable Shippen, who declared that he had grown old in the House of Commons only to see all the predictions of his life realised in the management of the nation. He re-asserted that Hanoverian maxims were inconsistent with the welfare and happiness of this kingdom, and at war with the spirit of caution which inspired those patriots who framed the Act of Settlement, which conferred the throne on the present royal family. He pointed out the instances in which the ministry had violated these cautionary securities, and insisted on steps being taken to prevent the nation being sacrificed to the preservation of foreign dominions. Pulteney, who followed, reviewed Walpole's whole administration, and accused him, not merely of individual acts of erroneous policy, but of deliberate treachery. This called Walpole to his feet, and he defended himself with all his accustomed self-command and ability, and finally offered to meet the Opposition on the question of the state of the nation, if they would name a day. This challenge was accepted, and January 21 was fixed upon.

Under these circumstances opened the year 1742. Every day showed that the fall of Walpole was now certain, and he would have consulted both his dignity and comfort in resigning at once, but he had too long been accustomed to power to yield. On the day appointed the Opposition entered upon the grand attack.



There was nothing new to bring forward, but the old charges were dressed up with new force, and finally resolved itself into a motion for a committee of accusation. Walpole defended himself with an ability worthy of his best days, and boldly reminded the Opposition of the long twenty years of defeats in their endeavours to turn him out. On the division 503 members voted—253 for the minister and 250 for the Opposition. The result of this division shook the last resistance of Walpole, and he intimated his intention of retiring from public life. On February 9 Sir Robert was created Earl of Oxford, and two days later he made a formal resignation of all his places. He died in 1745, aged 71 years. So passed from a long possession of power a minister who inaugurated a system of corruption, which was not so much abused by himself, as made a ready instrument of unmeasurable mischiefs in the hands of his successors, growing still more terrible and oppressive till it reached its acme in our own time, and compelled the necessity of political reform.

In April, 1742, occurred the death of Sir Charles Bunbury, Bart., one of the representatives for the city of Chester. He was succeeded by—

CHESTER — Philip Henry Warburton, esq.

On June 27, 1743, was fought the battle of Dettingen, undertaken by England against the allied powers of Spain, France, Prussia, and Bavaria, who were unfavourable to the succession of Maria Theresa to the throne of Austria. This battle is noteworthy as being the last battle led in person by an English King, and the conduct of King George in this engagement has been universally lauded by historians; it was undoubtedly through his personal courage and that of his son, far more than through the skill of any of his generals, that the day was won, which saved the English army from an ignominious surrender.

In order to divert the English from continental affairs, France in 1743 prepared a formidable army of 15,000 men, under Marshal Saxe, for the support of Prince Charles, otherwise known as the Young Pretender, who was expected to land in Kent. At this time the Pretender was in Rome, but escaped thence on January 9, 1744, and arrived in Paris ten days later. The expedition against England was at this moment already in motion, and actually sailed right up to the Isle of Wight. Thinking the coast clear, the French admiral, Roquefeuille, immediately sent orders to Dunkirk for the transports to embark and follow with all speed. Roquefeuille meantime, proceeding on his voyage, came to anchor off Dungeness, which he had no sooner done than he beheld the British fleet bearing down upon him in much greater force than his own, for he had only fifteen ships of the line, whilst the English, under Sir John Norris, consisted of twenty-one. The French, not waiting to be attacked, at once

slipped their cables and made the best of their way homewards. The next day that Providence which is on so many occasions defeated the attempts to invade "the inviolate island of the brave and the free," sent out His tempests and scattered the approaching transports, sinking some of the largest of them with all their men, wrecking others upon the coast, and making the rest glad to recover their port. A modern historian asserts that the fate of England at this juncture "hung suspended on the wind and the waves." Fortunately, it depended upon a higher Power, who the wind and the waves obey. And as it was said of the Spanish Armada, so of these dangers—"Afflavit Deus, et dissipavitur."

Although not directly connected with the parliamentary history of Cheshire, we have been induced briefly to outline the commencement of what is now known as the Rebellion of 1745, on account of the prominent part played in it by Cheshire and Cheshire men and in furtherance of which the Jacobite faction in Parliament, headed by Shippen and others, had long struggled. It would also be out of place here to do more than present a summary of the events that led to a termination of that brief but exciting period.

The time for the last great conflict for the recovery of their forfeited throne of Great Britain by the Stuarts was now come. The Old Pretender, as he was called, had grown old and cautious, but the young prince, Charles Edward, had not at all abated his enthusiasm for it. Accordingly, on July 2, 1745 (N.S.), he set sail for Scotland, having secretly engaged a French man-of-war, carrying sixty-seven guns, and a brig of eighteen guns. With these he landed in the Western Islands, and, crossing over to the mainland, set up his standard at Glenfinnan, August 19, 1745. Here he was joined by a number of the Highland clans to the number of about 2000. Three days before a party of English soldiers sent to reinforce the garrison of Fort William were assailed by a number of Highlanders and compelled to lay down their arms, and taken prisoners. Captain Swettenham—an honoured Cheshire name—who was to have taken command of the fort, was thus a spectator of the scene at Glenfinnan. He was liberated by Charles, who told him he might "go and tell his general what he had seen, and add that he was coming to make war on him."

Meanwhile, Prince Charles was anything but idle. Clan after clan joined his standard as he continued to march southwards, the time being taken up by drilling and marching with an energy and spirit that would have done credit to a Marlborough, until September 17, when he first set foot in the streets of Edinburgh at the head of about 16,000. The state of the fortifications of this northern capital and of the soldiers showed the gross neglect of the Government. There was a place or an army of defence in so disgraceful a condition. Whilst we had been spending millions of

money and tens of thousands of lives on the continent for the protection of Hanover, not a thought appears to have existed for the defence of Scotland or its capital. What few soldiers there were to defend the city had been sent to the north for the suppression of the rising, leaving the city wholly unprotected; and while they had been toiling through pass and over mountain by one route, Charles and his army by another had descended like a torrent upon the city, taking possession without even a show of resistance.

In Edinburgh Charles was received with the greatest enthusiasm, crowds pressing round him eager to kiss his hand, or even to touch his clothes. This 17th of September was a day of wonder to the Jacobites, who seemed to see all their hopes realised. They declared that Charles resembled Robert Bruce in person as well as in fortune, and they could discover other likenesses to the portraits of his ancestors at Holyrood, who lived long before anyone was capable of painting their real features.

It may not be out of place here to give the reader a general idea of the person and character of this young man, who was destined to bring the long remembered claims of the Stuarts to an eternal close.

Charles Edward Lewis Casimir, the eldest son of Charles, Duke of Cambridge, and grandson of James II., was born at Rome, December 31, 1720, so that at the time of his landing in Scotland in July, 1745, he was in his 25th year. In person he was tall and well formed, having acquired in the active pursuits of the chase in the woods of France and Italy the athletic vigour and elastic endurance necessary for the fatigues of war. He was in countenance handsome, and in manners graceful, open, and attractive. The Polish blood of the Sobieskis inherited from his mother had softened the hardness of the Stuart feature. Those who saw him in the brief court of Holyrood describe his handsome person, his elegant yet dignified manners, with enthusiasm. In the campaign which he conducted he certainly displayed all the enthusiasm, the courage, and the perseverance which became the leader of such an enterprise. Spite of some charges of cowardice against him, had he been able to carry out all that he dared and all that he planned, the invasion of England might have had a different termination. He was overruled by the Highlanders, on whom his whole chance depended. Nor was the interior at that date unworthy of the pleasing exterior. He was generous, daring, and affectionate in his domestic relations, showing a zealous sympathy for his followers both in their trials and sufferings. But these fine qualities had never been cultivated to the splendour which they might have acquired. His qualities were native and unimproved, and his education had been grossly neglected. He had all the elements of a fine prince, but education, or rather the want of it, and failure ruined him. He was accused of being

penurious; but when it is considered with what mean resources he undertook this most stupendous enterprise, it is seen that there was cause enough for care and economy; whilst, on the other hand, he suffered the sharpest evils by refusing to get into debt, to the probable ruin of his friends.

Such were the qualities of the young prince, which enabled him to land in the most powerful kingdom in Europe with only two small vessels and seven followers, raise the Highlanders, pour down like an avalanche upon the whole country, defeat the arms of the English at Falkirk and Preston Pans, advance like a rushing torrent into the very heart of England, affrighting the capital and paralysing the court, and only being turned back again by the less enduring spirit of his followers. Failure, disappointment, and despair of ever reaching the goal of his highest ambition converted him in after years into a drivelling sot, querulous and ill-tempered, tyrannical to his dependents, and acrimonious to his wife, gradually sinking into imbecility and a premature old age. So striking in contrast were the beginning and the end of the young Pretender.

The next paper will trace the vicissitudes of the Prince on his journey southwards, during which he passed through Stockport, Macclesfield, and several other towns and villages in this portion of the county on his way.

EDITOR.

## Replies.

### A STOCKPORT POEM OF THE LAST CENTURY.

"An Ode on the Neglect of Humble Merit" was written by Robert Farren Cheetham, a Stockport youth of very considerable ability. He was a pupil first of the Stockport Grammar School, and afterwards of that at Manchester. Having gained a school exhibition, he graduated at Brazenose College, Oxford, and obtained the title of B.A. in the year 1800. He wrote a number of odes and miscellanies, some very pathetic and touching, others highly classical, which were published by subscription, and printed in most excellent style, with beautiful little cuts, by J. Dawson, of Stockport, in the year 1796. The ode in your last number is included therein. He had very delicate health, which somewhat tinged some of his writings with deep sadness. He died on January 13th, 1801, at the early age of 23, and was buried at the south-east corner of the chancel in the Parish Churchyard, and upon his gravestone will be found a few elegiac verses. I purpose giving a longer sketch of the writer in the final part of my History of Stockport, some instalments of which are in the printer's hands.

HENRY HEGINBOTHAM,

## A CURIOUS WELSH CUSTOM.

I read with considerable interest the remarks of a correspondent in a recent number of *Notes and Queries*, and would ask you to insert the following facts communicated to me by a relative, whose memory carries her back to the early part of the present century, and whose remarks go to prove that the custom was an old institution on the other side of the Pennine Range as well as in Wales.

At this time (*circa* 1820) my informant tells me that the custom of Bidding at funerals existed at Holmfirth, a quiet little town in the Holme Valley on the other side of Stanedge. The town was divided into what were termed burying rows, that is, all the residents within a certain area, irrespective of religion, were expected to contribute to the funeral expenses of any person who died within that area. These donations were paid on the day of the funeral to a relative of the deceased appointed to the office, who sat at the head of the coffin and received sums large and small from sympathising friends and from those who lived in the "row." On entering the house these donors were offered cake and wine, and on taking their leave,

if not one of the funeral party, they were offered a large currant cake to take home, a sufficient number always being prepared on these occasions to present one each to the relatives and friends attending the funeral, as well as to each contributor to the funeral fund. In fact, as my informant states, up to within thirty or forty years ago it was a common spectacle to see a funeral come from Holme—a village some miles up the valley—to Holmfirth, there being at that time no church or burying ground at the former place, when in all cases some, and in others many of those attending the funeral, might have been seen solemnly walking in procession singing the deceased to his grave, and each carrying his or her cake carefully wrapped up in a white handkerchief, which, as a rule, they took care to display to the full.

Seeing that the editor is going through the Stockport Parish Registers, it is quite possible that he may come across entries there that will throw a gleam of light across this and many other curious customs that obtained with our forefathers in this neighbourhood. Meantime, I should be pleased if any other reader or correspondent could bring forward any further evidence on the subject.

Stockport.

F. JOHNSON.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1886.

## Notes.

## STOCKPORT PARISH REGISTERS.

The Parish Registers in Stockport contain much quaint and curious information well worthy of being transcribed. By way of preface the following particulars relating to the church and its rectors may be of interest.

## THE CHURCH.

The Parish Church of Stockport, dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, must have had a very ancient foundation, for Stockport having been an important stronghold in the Roman and Saxon periods, it is only reasonable to infer that there was a church and consecrated burying-ground in connection with the Castle. There is no mention of it in the Domesday Book, but the devastation of the district by the Normans soon after the Conquest is sufficient to account for the omission. Upon this subject we learn from Ormerod's *History of Cheshire* that there can be little doubt that a church had existed here which was the head of a most extensive parish before the Conquest.

Of the earlier churches, says Dr Heginbotham, in his *Stockport: Ancient and Modern*, there are no records or remains but the structure which preceded the present,

and of which the existing chancel formed a part, was erected early in the fourteenth century. The church, consisting of tower, nave, and chancel, was built of red sandstone, the prevailing geological formation of the district, and was a very venerable structure, standing upon the site occupied by the present church. In 1810, the insecure state of the tower of the old church and the fall of part of the embattlements on the south side of the nave led to an application to Parliament for "An Act for Repairing or Rebuilding the Parish Church of Stockport, in the County Palatine of Chester, and for Rebuilding the Tower thereof; and for making a Cemetery or Churchyard for the use of the Parish." This Act was passed in 1810, and steps were soon after taken for carrying the Act into effect.

When the tower and nave had been demolished and removed, arrangements were made for laying the foundation stone of the new structure, and July 5, 1813, was selected for that purpose. The stone was laid at the south-east corner of the town by Wilbraham Egerton, Esq., M.P., grandfather of the present Lord Egerton of Tatton. The rebuilding of the church occupied nearly four years, and the first sermon was preached therein April 6, 1817, by the Rev. Edward Hawell, the curate. The church, however, was not consecrated until July 4, 1817, on which occasion the sermon was preached by the Rev. Charles Prescott, B.D.,

the rector. The total cost of rebuilding the church was £42,886 3s 1½d.

On October 29, 1882, the church was again re-opened after having been renovated and decorated under the able guidance of Mr J. S. Crowther, of Alderley, the architect who has in hand the remodelling of Manchester Cathedral. Under his direction the whole of the old box-pews were removed and the present open sitting substituted. The gallery on each side was lowered about eight inches, whilst that at the west end occupied by the organ and choir was entirely removed. The gable was pierced, and in it has since been inserted the present beautiful stained glass window by Mr R. B. Lingard-Monk, as a memorial to his late wife. The organ was placed in the Lyme and Brinnington Chapel after being thoroughly cleaned and overhauled. These alterations cost about £4000.

Before proceeding with the registers it may be of interest here to give a list of the Rectors. The following are their names, together with the year of institution:—

THE RECTORS.

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1150 Matthæus, clericus   | 1577 Richard Gerard, B.D.  |
| 1200 Robert, clericus     | 1614 Rich. Kenyon, M.A.    |
| 1250 Alan                 | 1615 Ed. Doughtie, M.A.    |
| 1280 William de Newton    | 1616 Thomas Morton, D.D.   |
| 1300 Robert de Basinges   | 1619 Richard Murray, D.D.  |
| 1306 Richard de Vernon    | 1637 Edmund Shalcrosse     |
| 1334 Peter de Wetenhall   | 1645 Thomas Case, M.A.     |
| 1348 William de Northwell | 1646 Thomas Johnson        |
| 1363 Jordan de Holme      | 1656 Thomas Paget          |
| 1364 John de Massey       | 1680 Henry Warren          |
| 1376 James de Baggeley    | 1674 Leonard Clayton       |
| 1404 Hugh de Toft         | 1678 Wm. Shippen, D.D.     |
| 1407 John Fyton           | 1694 William Nicolls, M.A. |
| 1432 William Tabley       | 1717 Harry Style, B.A.     |
| 1467 John Warren          | 1742 Samuel Stead, M.A.    |
| 1473 Henry Warren         | 1769 John Watson, M.A.     |
| 1493 John Gerard          | 1783 Charles Prescet, B.D. |
| 1517 Nicholas Warren      | 1820 C. K. Prescott, M.A.  |
| 1517 John Smyth, D.D.     | 1875 Wm. Symonds, M.A.     |
| 1538 Arthur Lowe          |                            |

At the time when the Registers commenced the rector was the Rev. Richard Gerard, B.D., M.A. He was the first rector appointed after the formation of the See of Chester in 1541 on the presentation of his uncle, Gilbert Gerard, and of William Gerard, of Gray's Inn, London, the first named being attorney-general to Queen Elizabeth from 1559 to 1585, and the latter lord chancellor for Ireland. He was also recorder of Chester from 1556 to 1575, and represented that city in Parliament until his death, which took place May 1, 1581.

Richard Gerard, the rector, was the second son of William Gerard, of Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex, a

representative of the Gerards of Bryn in Lancashire. He was one of the chaplains of Queen Elizabeth, and in 1580 was instituted prebendary of Norwell Overhall, in the Collegiate Church of Southwell. He married, January 19, 1584-5— nine months after the commencement of the Registers—Ursula, daughter of Ralph Arderne of Harden, Bredbury, by whom he had ten children. His own burial is thus recorded in the Registers—

Richard Gerard, Bachelor of Divinitie and Parson of the Church of Stockport was buried the 17th of Maye, 1614.

THE PARISH REGISTERS.

As already mentioned, the Parish Registers date from 1584, which date is many years later than those of the neighbouring parishes of Cheadle, Northenden, and Wilmslow. They are, however, exceedingly voluminous, consisting of not less than seventy-six volumes. What is better still, they are well written and in an excellent state of preservation. Up to the commencement of 1880 the Registers altogether contain the records of 64,186 baptisms, 32,537 marriages, and 63,924 burials.

The first volume is a thick parchment folio, dating from 1584 to 1628. There is no division between baptisms, marriages, or burials; each is entered as it took place. For the sake of clearness, however, these have been separately placed under each month, and the date of the event brought to the front in chronological order.

The first page of this volume of the Registers contains the following entry:—

A true and perfect Register of all those that have bene christned married and buried in the parish church of Stockport which beginneth the twentie and fiftē day of March 1584 and in the twentie sixte yeare of the reigne of our  
Soveraigne Ladye  
Elizabeth.

On the next page commence the entries of baptisms, marriages, and burials, in the order of their occurrence. These, however, as already intimated, have been classified under each month. We may add that the orthography has in all cases been adhered to as closely as possible, whereby the reader will be able to note the various forms of spelling local names which obtained during the earlier and transitory period covered by these Registers.

MARCH, 1584.

BAPTISED.

25.—William the sonne of William Dauenport of Bramhall Esquier.

25.—Elizabeth daughter of Laurence fallows of Bramhall.

25.—Ellen daughter of Robte Bridge of Stockport.  
BURIED.

25.—Agnes Collyn wydow of Torkinton.

#### APRIL, 1584.

##### BAPTISED.

5.—Ales daughter of Thomas Leighe of Brinnington.

5.—Raffe sonne of Willm Chestham of Woodley.

6.—John sonne of John Shaw of Hyde.

8.—Laurence sonne of John Byron of Stockport.

21.—Isabell daughter of Peter Sydebotham of Bredbury.

##### BURIED.

7.—A chylde of Hughe Ridgeways of Stockport.

8.—Richard sonne of Robert Lees of Stockport.

9.—Catherine daughter of Olliver Robinson of Brinnington.

11.—Dorothy daughter of Rondull Dauenport of Henburie Esquier.

16.—The wyfe of William Ashton of the Bowlicar in Werneth.

19.—Cicely the wyfe of Thomas Robinson.

21.—A chylde of the saide Thomas Robinson.

25.—Margery Shuttleworth of Northbury.

#### MAY, 1584.

##### BAPTISED.

1.—Ellen daughter of John Higham of Higham.

3.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Syddall of Bramhall.

8.—Ellen daughter of Thomas Broaded late of Stockport.

12.—Thomas and Samson sons of Thomas Woodward.

12.—Margery daughter of James Withington.

18.—Ellen daughter of Edward Higham.

##### MARRIED.

10.—Hughe Hanley and Em Rorke.

12.—Christopher Figgott and Margaret Bowler.

26.—Robte Cooke and Anne Wilkinson.

##### BURIED.

16.—Ellen daughter of John Higham of Higham.

16.—Margery daughter of John Higham of Higham.

20.—Ales daughter of George Rudstone.

26.—Ales Dodge wydow.

#### JUNE, 1584.

##### BAPTISED.

13.—Ambrose sonne of Ambrose Robinson of Stockport.

16.—Katherine daughter of Willm Danyell of Stockport.

25.—Willm sonne of Willm Thorniley of Romiley.

##### MARRIED.

1.—Willm Wilkinson and Jane Richardson.

14.—Richard Barton and Ales Lingard.

21.—Peter Kirke and Ellen Allen.

27.—Willm Mellor and Ales Danyell.

28.—Georg Hollenworth and Anne Bowerhouse.  
BURIED.

3.—Robte sonne of Willm Nicholson of Redish.

7.—Maude Warren of Stockport.

12.—Ellen Pickford of Mossley brow.

19.—Rondall sonne of Willm Cleaton.

#### JULY, 1584.

##### BAPTISED.

1.—Ellen daughter of James fall of Stockport.

12.—John Persivall sonne of George P'sivall.

19.—Anne daughter of John Bennetson.

19.—Robte sonne of Lawrence Clough.

25.—Raffe sonne of Raffe Dickson of Stockport.

26.—Edward sonne of Edward Bowerhouse of Stockport.

##### MARRIED.

20.—Tho Henshaw and Elizabeth Bredbury.

26.—Raffe Didsbury and Anne Bennetson.

##### BURIED.

2.—John Swyndell of Royley.

6.—Margery the wife of George Warren of Poynton.

24.—Anne Wyht of Marple.

24.—Tho sonne of Willm Rowbotham of Bramhall.

#### AUGUST, 1584.

##### BAPTISED.

2.—Rondull sonne of Lawrence Warren of Offerton.

7.—John sonne of John Cheetham of Denton.

7.—Katherine daughter of Robte Cooke of Northbury.

11.—John sonne of John fallows of Bramhall.

14.—Francis sonne of Robte Shaw.

27.—Dorothy daughter of Ottiwell Ridge.

##### MARRIED.

26.—John Hawke and Ales Leigh.

##### BURIED.

8.—Olliver Dodge of Stockport.

18.—Raffe Cheetham of Woodley.

18.—Ales Bright of Bredbury.

25.—Ales wyfe of Henry Higgenbothom.

#### SEPTEMBER, 1584.

##### BAPTISED.

10.—John the sonne of Willm Hunt of the Hillgate in Stockport.

20.—Ellen daughter of Richard Howarth of Bramhall.

23.—Margret daughter of Robte Janney.

25.—Willm sonne of John Adshead of Torkinton.

##### MARRIED.

12.—Robte Sydebothom and Ales Cooke.

13.—Valentyne Burengest and Catherine Collier.

20.—Raffe Taylor and Ellen fallows.

Didsbury.

E. W. BULKELEY.

(To be continued.)

THE ABIDING QUALITIES OF WELSH WOMEN.

I was engaged in sorting a considerable bundle of Cambrian M.S. the other day, and found among them the report of a speech delivered by Mr Salisbury (then M.P. for Chester) in March, 1853, at a dinner of Welshmen. It is worth purusing as a sample of what can be explained in a very few words, in honour of the Welsh ladies. The honourable and learned gentleman said :—

I am amused at times at the wonderful display of Welsh nationality we exhibit on St. David's Day. It would almost seem as if we denuded ourselves on these occasions of the Anglo-Cambrian character, we so much boast of at other times; and even our noble host, who is as much of an Englishman as he is a Welshman, has been among the first of our notable men who desired to present himself before our countrymen on our saint's day, in all the aboriginal nakedness which pre-distinguished our forefathers, when they were content to cover themselves with their war-paint, and nothing more. It is well for all us of that this condition of things can only happen once a year.

There are people who tell us that our national saint is altogether a mythical personage; that the story of his carrying away the crozier from Caerleon to St. David's is also a fable; and as for his saintly grave at Bardsey, they say it never existed, except, in the heated imagination of the Welsh antiquary, who wrote out the account of it after dinner upon St. David's Day, and very long before we possessed a printed literature to boast of. I must leave it to others to determine these moot questions; but we are ourselves living witnesses of the fact that, to this hour, "Merched glân Meirionydd" do dwell among us, to enchant our senses with their beauty, and to steal our hearts with their witchery and their love. These fair maids of Meirioneth have been proverbial for their loves at all times, and they are as much so now as ever. I have been chosen by my noble friend to do honour to our country-women, because I am supposed to be passionately attached to them. He has been kind enough to suppose that I have derived from Catharin of Beraïn, whose charms secured for her four husbands in succession; but in that he is mistaken, for I can only boast of my descent from Gwenhyver Vaughan, whose lovely face and broad acres tempted Robin Salusbury to woo her and then to win her. I plead guilty to the soft impeachment of being a devoted worshipper of our fair country-women; and I believe that I may say, without fear of contradiction, that they are well entitled to our affection, and are in every way deserving of our esteem. There is none present at this board who will presume to question that sentiment.

My Lord, our women are the pride and glory of our land. They are our mothers, sisters, daughters, and I suppose that I may add on behalf of every gentleman present, our wives or sweethearts. We love them

dearly, not only because they are beautiful, but chiefly because they are virtuous, tender, compassionate, and kind; more kind to men perhaps than they are to each other; but I am willing to overlook their shortcomings in the latter respect, so long as they are true to us. We may admit for the nonce that Taffy is brave, and of the noble race of Shenkin; that he held his country against the invader for generations untold, and that when he died upon the battle-field, he died gloriously, and for a very noble cause; but he would have been nowhere but for his mother, and upon the whole, therefore, I very much prefer to cherish a loving regard for Mother Eve with all her faults, than I do for the old Adam with all his lordly virtues.

In one thing, at least, our women are pre-eminent, they are abiding in their love and true to their troth; sometimes, indeed, they are so to their own loss, but we are the gainers, and it is fitting therefore that on an occasion like the present we should do them honour accordingly. A faithful woman is a crown of glory to her husband, just as a flirt is a disgrace to her sex. I learnt that good lesson at my own mother's knee, and it was well beaten into me subsequently by that good old aunt of mine whom you knew so well. The very best of wives has not been slow in keeping me up to the mark, and I rather think that my houseful of daughters will always see that I do due honour to the sex. There is something touching in the story about the Spartan women; the eleven thousand virgins we have heard so much about can never be forgotten; but our own bards have sung gloriously in honour of the abiding endurance of our own women and of the reverence they paid to their own words of promise. One of them depicts a promise breaker as "a wanton slut," but I rather object to that description of her, although I must admit that a girl who can break her sacred word of promise to her lover cannot partake very largely of the Godlike virtue of endurance. "A flirt is the plague of humanity," said a well-known writer, but surely we know very little about the "plague" in our own country, though it is somewhat common south of the Trent, I am told. I may tell you in a whisper that I am not much of a lady's man; I do not understand their wiles, nor the art of flattering them to the top of their bent, but I have known some of the sex whose virtues have shone very brightly in my eyes, whose reverence for holy things has helped to humble my own pride, and whose word could always be taken as their bond, so that I may very safely commend them to each of you gentlemen as among the noblest of God's gifts to men.

Welsh women have their failings, no doubt, but I am myself very blind to them. It is enough for me to know how much they excel in morals, and how they will sacrifice health and wealth in proof of their love.

I am proud therefore, my lords and gentlemen, to be permitted to ask you to do honour to the sentiment placed in my hands, and to invite you to drink in a bumper the toast of "The Ladies."

If Mr Salisbury has described with any degree of accuracy the leading features in the character of his countrywomen, we may well wonder that their sons should lay themselves open to the gross imputation of perjury. I cannot bring myself to believe the charges brought against them. Not that Mr Lloyd meant to do them any wrong, but he has not comprehended the true character of the people, and has set down to lying that which is really due to the bi-lingual difficulty.

R. S. H.

#### JOHN BOOTH, OF CHEADLE.

Another of the old people of Wilmslow—the old natives—has gone from among us. Only a few weeks back Joshua Taylor, the postman of late years, died at, I think, about 76 years of age, and now we have to mourn the death of John Booth, an old Wilmslow man, who died at Cheadle on Friday, February 12, where for a few of the last years of his life he had resided near to his nearest relative, Mr James Faulkner. He had attained his 84th year. Almost all his life was spent in Wilmslow. He was the son of George and Betty Booth. I think his father was a Staffordshire man, and therefore not originally of Wilmslow, but his mother, formerly named Faulkner, was of two old Wilmslow families—the Faulkners and the Oakes. John Booth was in the full vigour of manhood many years before the first Reform Bill passed in 1832; indeed, at that time he was 30 years of age, and took a lively interest in everything that was for the advancement of the people as he did to the end. He was through life a strong Liberal, but of a most evenly balanced temperament, thoroughly and truly conservative in his tastes, yet ready to advance with the times and prepare for the future development of the world's progress. Fifty years back, when the writer was a lad, John Booth was one of the village politicians that met at Martha Wilkinson's bar at the George and Dragon, near the church gates, and at that time the late Lord Brougham was in full swing. It was the custom of the times in such assemblies to dub the different members after some of the leading statesmen of the day, and our late friend John Booth was "Brougham," pronounced "Broom"—Lord Broom—and he could well sustain the character among a race of men—very intelligent men—long since passed away, among whom may be mentioned Samuel Pearson, John Pickford, Thomas Antrobus, Isaac Whittaker, Charles Barber, and many others, who broke a political lance on old Martha Wilkinson's tilting ground; but Booth, like the Black Knight in *Ivanhoe*, always came off victorious, and no wonder for his head was screwed on rightly and his brains

were clear and strong. He had been a scholar at the old Water-lane Sunday School when it was the only means of education for the poor in the neighbourhood, and at that time amongst many the desire for self-improvement, begotten by Sunday schools, was almost a passion, which, when compared with the looseness and carelessness of our days of far greater means and appointments, might well put us to the blush. John Booth belonged to those who wanted to know, and he became a fairly educated man. He was a good penman, a good reader, good arithmetician, well up in the fundamentals; and then he was a reader, not only of newspapers and ephemeral literature, but also of solid books; and during a long life he failed not to store his mind with a fund of useful information which was always at command, and which made him a most desirable companion and friend. He had, as every man ought to have, an intelligent knowledge of the constitution and laws of his country, which he was always ready to uphold, and lawlessness and violence found no support from him. While prepared to advance with the progress of the age, he was for walking in the light of day and where his steps were sure. He was a firm believer in the truth of religion, and even in his most joyous hours he always recognised with Burns that

"An Atheist's laugh is poor exchange  
For Deity offended."

He never sat in the "seat of the scorner." With his intelligent knowledge of the laws of his country, he was ever ready at an emergency to advise his neighbours or to make a will, yet never to prey upon the ignorance and credulity of his friends. He was no "hedge lawyer," although a ready scribe and a useful friend to his neighbours in hours of perplexity and adversity. His dry humour, his ready wit, the clear expression of his orderly thoughts, his genial good nature, and his hearty and inimitable laugh made him an irresistible friend and boon companion. He was of the old Wilmslow staple trade to begin with—a cotton handloom weaver. After that he was a cotton warper, but of late years he had retired upon a moderate competency. Our late friend was a most exemplary man among the Foresters. I think I am right in saying that he was a member of the lodge formerly held at the New Inn from its first beginning, and if I mistake not he was for long years its efficient secretary, beside which I believe he has filled almost all the lodge and district offices with credit. The Foresters have lost an able man, but their consolation is that others are taking the places of those that fall. May they be worthy successors of their late Brother Booth. Our departed friend died a bachelor, and this part of his character I do not recommend for imitation. In early life he had a passing gleam of brightness in the way of a courtship,

but it only lasted 27 years, and then went out. Some things do not want dwelling upon. Marriage is like diving, you must jump in over head at once. If you linger shivering on the brink, you are lost. Our late friend missed the mark here, but in his late days the want of a wife was made up to him, so far as it could be, by the kind and assiduous attention of his near relations, who smoothed his last pillow. John Booth belonged to the days when mail coaches rattled through Wilmslow, and the guard's horn awoke the echoes of Hill-top and Fulshaw, when gentlemen posted to London by relays, and when every available stable was full of horses, and when the one post arrived at the Swan from Manchester about noon. Times and fashions are gone! John Booth is gone! All gone, so the world passeth away. "Go thy way, Daniel, for thou shalt rest and shalt stand in thy lot at the end of the days."

The deceased, who was in his 84th year, was initiated a member of Court Renovation, No. 310 (now held at the Royal Oak, Alderley Edge) on the 11th day of January, 1834, having been in the court ever since it was formed. He was highly respected both in his court and in the district, having passed through most of the offices connected with them. He was secretary for a number of years, and was also one of the founders of the Juvenile Foresters' Burial Society connected with Court Rose, No. 309, and Renovation No. 310, which is now in a very flourishing condition having over 600 members, with a capital of over £800 and he acted for many years as secretary. The deceased was interred at the Wilmslow Parish Church on Wednesday, being carried to the grave by four of the members of the district.

WILLIAM NOBBURY.

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1886.

## Notes.

### VITAL STATISTICS OF WILMSLOW PARISH.

The effect which the pressure of the hard times in the earlier half of this century produced in limiting the comfort of the least opulent classes of the inhabitants of the country has been brought into view by the narratives of the old people recounted in a previous chapter. The readers of these papers will possibly have lost confidence in "the good old times" and the "days of merrie England," and will regard the condition of the peasantry during the earlier portion of this century as one to be greatly commiserated. It will be interesting to endeavour to ascertain if the poverty arising from low wages and dear food affected the duration of human life. We have not the means to isolate the poorer from other classes whose means were more abundant, but as the poor are the larger portion of any community we may without sensible error compare the death-rate of the entire population in one area during one period with that of the population in the same area at a subsequent period. The population of Wilmslow is sufficiently numerous to furnish a basis for such a comparison. There are several considerations which must not be overlooked. Medical science has advanced greatly during recent years. The lancet (probably a more potent weapon than the sword) has been sheathed, and the free use of severe remedies has declined.

Smallpox (formerly so common that a considerable number of persons whom one met in the street were pitted by that terrible disease) has so far been eradicated that a face disfigured by the disease is now rarely seen. Medical assistance was not so accessible to the poor as in more recent times; this circumstance, however, signified the less as such aid was less effectual. The interiors of cottages were perhaps quite as clean as we generally find them at the present day, but the accumulations around them were noxious and offensive. The filth of Wilmslow seethed and fermented as it trickled towards the river in its course down the centre of the ill-kept street. Fevers were almost chronic, and fierce epidemics swept off their numerous victims. Sanitary science was unknown. Carbolic acid was unheard of, and Scheele had only discovered chlorine in the last quarter of the previous century. Yet the parish of Wilmslow has ever been noted for its comparative salubrity. The fresh air blown across Lindow Common is charged with ozone, the inhabitants are mostly scattered over the parish, and the village itself is so small that the evils arising from what are termed "rookeries" (which raise the death-rate in towns) could affect at most but a small proportion of the population.

Many researches have been made showing the mortality in towns, but the figures have less frequently been collated to show the mortality in a healthy rural district. Fortunately for our purpose, the successive sextons kept a careful account



of the burials in the parish churchyard, and as the record was used to preserve an account of the burial fees it was needful that it should be maintained with accuracy. The book is a monument of the care of the successive sextons, and is remarkably free from erasures or blots. Certainly the writers had peculiar notions respecting the correct orthography of certain surnames, and "Jhon," "Shusannah," and "Johnathan" frequently recur. Nearly the whole of the burials in the parish were made in the churchyard; the number at Dean Row Chapel and at the burial grounds of the Friends was extremely small. The burials of a few persons who died in the parish were made elsewhere, but the effect of this slight disturbance was nearly neutralised by the bodies of some persons who had died away being brought hither for interment.

By the courtesy of Mr and Mrs Rhodes the writer has been permitted to examine the records referred to, which are almost perfect from the years 1822 to 1867 inclusive, and this period may conveniently be divided into two series of 23 years each—one being the pre-free-trade and the other the post-free-trade group.

The population of the parish has considerably increased in recent times, as will be seen from the following table. The six earlier figures are taken from the M.S.S of Samuel Finney, and the three latter from the census returns:—

Years.	Population.
1587 .....	1100
1609 .....	957
1628 .....	1265
1666 .....	1287
1682 .....	1296
1787 .....	2461
1851 .....	4952
1861 .....	7531
1871 .....	8965

Since the making of the railway a new resident population has been steadily increasing, its members usually occupying a higher social grade than the general indigenous inhabitants, and the longer duration of life among the more prosperous class will tend to raise the general average. The proportion which the deaths of infants bear to the total deaths is a useful index of the degree of stability of life, as infants possess such a feeble existence that they soonest fade and pass away under adverse conditions.

The following table supplies the number of deaths of children under five years, as well as the ratio they bear to the total deaths:—

WILMSLOW CHURCHYARD.  
Burials (excluding still-born) during 46 years, namely, 1822 to 1867, inclusive:

Year.	Average age.	Total number of burials.	Number under five years.	Percentage of infants.
1822	33.0	60	18	30
1823	22.0	81	39	48
1824	37.0	92	23	24
1825	28.7	44	13	30
1826	36.0	63	14	22
1827	31.1	69	23	33
1828	27.3	75	21	28
1829	34.6	68	17	25
1830	30.5	76	23	30
1831	35.1	69	19	28
1832	22.6	71	33	47
1833	34.6	64	18	28
1834	35.7	82	21	26
1835	24.8	89	32	36
1836	27.7	114	48	42
1837	31.4	85	27	31
1838	32.0	89	20	23
1839	29.0	102	36	35
1840	21.0	117	45	38
1841	24.9	93	30	32
1842	28.2	92	33	36
1843	36.7	81	20	25
1844	31.1	68	18	27
1845	31.5	83	21	25
1846	21.6	68	32	47
1847	33.1	98	23	23
1848	35.6	93	25	27
1849	30.0	97	25	26
1850	31.8	97	29	30
1851	31.6	68	20	29
1852	36.6	82	23	28
1853	34.8	69	17	25
1854	34.2	85	24	28
1855	26.8	90	36	40
1856	32.1	93	27	29
1857	26.6	101	36	36
1858	36.0	87	24	28
1859	31.7	117	35	30
1860	32.4	87	26	30
1861	28.4	84	27	32
1862	35.4	98	28	29
1863	29.2	118	36	31
1864	33.6	100	31	31
1865	28.1	131	49	37
1866	30.7	109	34	31
1867	37.7	93	25	27

It will be noticed that the greatest number of deaths occurred in the year 1865, when 131 interments took place. Taking into account the smaller population, it is probable that the rate of mortality was somewhat greater in the years 1840 and 1836. The least fatal year was 1825, when only 44 burials were recorded. Probably it was during this time of exceptional vitality that the old sexton, feeling the financial pressure arising from the diminished number of fees, bemoaned his condition to the mother of the late Mr Williamson in these words, "Whei, whei, Betty, what dost think? I haven't buried a *living soul* this fortnit!" The

average age at death ranged from 37·7 years in 1867 to 21 in 1840. In 1824 the average age at death was 37 years. On no occasion has the proportion of infant deaths fallen below that of 1826, when 22 per cent. of the burials were of this class. In 1823 the proportion reached to so high a point as 48 per cent., and on several other occasions this figure was nearly attained. It is shocking to contemplate that one-half of those who had ended their course were little children who had scarcely commenced it.

Dividing the table into two groups of 23 years each, in order to compare the earlier with the later group, we arrive at the following conclusions :— During the first series 1870 burials took place, and during the later series 2122, the increased number being accounted for by the increased population. The average age at death in the former period was 29 years 10 months, and during the later period 31 years 7 months, being an increase of 1 year 9 months. In order to ascertain if this improvement was due to a reduction in the death rate of infants, who most of all are swept away by zymotic diseases, and who therefore soonest feel the benefit of improved sanitary conditions, we may compare the death rate of infants during the later period with that of the former. The mean death rate for infants in Wilmslow from 1822 to 1844 was 31·35 per cent., and from 1845 to 1867 it had fallen to 30·74 per cent. The longer duration of life is thus traceable in part to the greater security of infant life, but still more to other causes. Besides the lower death rate in the more wealthy families (such as are chiefly those persons who have settled in the district since the construction of the railway,) it must be borne in mind that the households of such include domestic servants, governesses, butlers, and sometimes unmarried coachmen, whose presence and inclusion tend to lower the death-rate, as they do not bring their proportion of infants whose deaths increase the general rate so materially. Giving due weight to these circumstances and to the adoption of better sanitary arrangements, and to the more successful treatment of disease, we may conclude that the moderate increase in the average age at death is accounted for ; or reversing the method of stating the fact, we may say that the hard times of the earlier period did not sensibly shorten human life. The food if, severely simple, and almost without variety, and often far from abundant, did not shorten life as compared with the ampler provision attainable in later years. Some authorities are of the opinion that too abundant feeding and too large a proportion of nitrogenous food are the causes of much disease

and premature death at the present time ; if such be the case, the inhabitants of our parish during the period included between the years 1822 and 1844 were at any rate shielded somewhat from these calamities.

Having compared the earlier with the latter period, it would be interesting to institute a comparison between Wilmslow and the condition of England generally. The Registration Act came into force in July, 1837. By reference to the reports of the Registrar-General for the seven years 1838 to 1844 inclusive, we find that the average age at death in England during that period was 29 years 2 months. Wilmslow compares favourably if the comparison be made with the former period, when the average duration of life was 29 years 10 months, or the later period, when it was 31 years 7 months. The result is not quite so favourable when the comparison is made with the seven years 1839 to 1844. Wilmslow shows itself superior to England generally in the matter of infant mortality. Whilst out of every 100 children born in England, 22 perished before they had attained one year, and 39 before they had attained the age of five, the numbers who died in Wilmslow were respectively only 19 and 32. Wilmslow, however, possesses the advantage of being a rural parish, and the deaths throughout England include those of all the densely peopled towns the heavier mortality in which raises the general death-rate.

We have ascertained the rate of mortality in a rural parish in the county of Chester during the middle half of the present century, not because any special interest attaches to this locality, but because it may be taken as a fair example of rural districts in this portion of the country. It will be profitable to enquire if the duration of life as there revealed compares favourably with that of any other class of persons who occupied nearly a similar station, and who had resided in the same district during the same period. In the prosecution of investigations of this nature it is of the first importance that the data be collected with care, and this cannot be done without the employment of some considerable time. It is also necessary to take note of the varying conditions under which the examples selected for comparison exist.

The Society of Friends furnishes such a community as will serve our purpose, and it is the only one from which the requisite data can be readily collected. It is therefore proposed to compare the mortality among the inhabitants of Wilmslow with that which occurred in the Society of Friends.

in this county during the same period. The registers of the births, marriages, and burials of those professing with that body of Christians have been kept for more than two centuries with remarkable care. When the Registration Act came into force in 1837 the Government wished to acquire possession of the original records, and, in order to preserve them from injury by fire or moisture, as well as from actual loss, to store them in a place of security in London. The originals were accordingly surrendered, and replaced by carefully-attested copies. The federation of meetings, named the "Monthly Meeting of Cheshire," comprises the whole of this county with the exception of certain districts near to Manchester and Liverpool, and it includes some small portions of the adjacent county of Derby. The registers are placed under the care of Mr Smithson, of Summerland, and, by his courtesy and ready aid, a complete analysis of the burials which have taken place in the Friends' graveyards within this district has been made, with the results which are detailed below.

In one respect the condition of the Friends was less favourable to longevity than that of the inhabitants of Wilmslow. Scattered promiscuously throughout the county a certain proportion dwelt in towns such as Stockport, Macclesfield, and Nantwich, and those were subjected to some of the influences which raise the death-rate in dense communities. Indeed, in consequence of the losses to which the rural Friends were subjected from their conscientious refusal to pay tithes, most of them withdrew from agriculture and betook themselves to trade, which they could only prosecute in the towns. These in consequence contained more than their due arithmetical proportion of the Friends. This circumstance taken by itself would justify a higher death-rate than that of the inhabitants of Wilmslow. On the other hand, there were circumstances which would lead to a low death-rate. Extreme penury hinders mothers from bestowing that cherishing care on young children, especially upon weakly ones, which wards off disease and tends to preserve life. Yet opulence is not the condition most favourable to life. Children of many wealthy mothers are consigned to the care of hired nurses, and are less frequently nourished by their mothers than those in humbler life. Ignorance, too, is a foe to life, and the extent of the mismanagement of their children exhibited by some inexperienced young mothers is scarcely credible. This class makes free use of pernicious and poisonous anodynes. The Friends are rarely so wealthy as

to be tempted to neglect their offspring, and they are never so poor as to be in need of food, clothing, or shelter, as the needy among their number have their necessities relieved. From almost the foundation of the Society the education of the young has received the care of the Church, and good schools have been provided. Children whose parents were unable to provide the means to send them to school were educated at the expense of the community. The use of alcoholic drinks and tobacco has been systematically discouraged, and the excessive indulgence in strong drink has either been restrained or the victims to it have been separated from membership. The mode of life, the habits of thought, and the operation of the discipline of the little church tended to induce that simplicity and moderation, and that quietness of demeanour which were not unfrequently seen among the Friends. All these circumstances were favourable to long life. It cannot, however, be supposed that the standard of vitality reached by the Friends was the highest attainable, or is superior to that in the families of sober people among the middle class. That which is alone remarkable is that it permeates the entire community of the Friends. Still greater care in the management of infants, removal from towns to rural districts, and knowledge of the means for averting infection, would have produced even better results, and that such is the case is demonstrated from the circumstance that the duration of life among the Friends at the present times is longer than in former years.

It may be taken for granted that the standard attained by the Friends in Cheshire might have been attained by the people of Wilmslow if a little more knowledge had been diffused, and a little more sobriety had been practised. We have already ascertained that the simple and not too abundant food of a former period did not materially shorten life. If this be so, we may consider that all the deaths in excess of those of the Friends in Cheshire during the same period should be classed as "preventible mortality," and therefore that the deaths were caused not by the will of God, but by ignorance and vice of man. Besides the interments of members of the Society of Friends many other burials were permitted in their grounds. These represented those who were connected with the Friends but were not in membership. Some were those who had forfeited their membership from various causes, chiefly in consequence of their marrying persons not in religious fellowship. Others were the persons so married to Friends, and others again were the offspring of such

mixed marriages. Lastly, some were those who attended the meetings of worship of the Friends, but who had not been united to the body. This group of non-members were partly under the influences which made the Friends a long-lived community; and therefore it would be reasonable to expect that their death-rate would be intermediate between that of the general public and the Friends.

The following table, which has been prepared with care, will furnish the means of comparing the various classes adverted to:—

PROPORTION OF DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGES. OUT OF EVERY 100 BURIED THERE WERE—										
Under 1	Under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 55	55 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and over
Wilmslow Churchyard, 1822 to 1844, inclusive .....	18-80									
Wilmslow Churchyard, 1845 to 1867, inclusive .....	17-64									
Wilmslow Churchyard, 1822 to 1867, inclusive .....	18-27									
The whole of England, 1838 to 1844, inclusive .....	22-0									
Society of Friends in Cheshire 1800 to 1884, inclusive .....	6-36									
Burials in S. of F. grounds of those not members .....	10-03									
Total	31-55	4-93	4-21	11-55	9-0	7-28	6-53	6-95	8-45	1-92
Under 5	30-74	4-85	3-91	10-85	7-96	6-5	7-71	7-54	9-76	1-84
5 and under 10	31-15	4-88	4-06	11-15	8-44	6-86	7-19	7-26	9-14	1-86
10 and under 15	39-4	5-0	2-6	7-3	6-8	6-3	6-0	7-1	8-6	7-5
15 and under 25	15-65	2-89	2-03	7-22	7-51	5-78	5-49	11-27	19-35	3-76
25 and under 35	24-03	6-17	2-27	10-07	5-85	5-52	7-15	12-0	12-35	3-24
35 and under 45										
45 and under 55										
55 and under 65										
65 and under 75										
75 and over										

Although the table is most useful in its unabridged form for the purpose of comparison, yet the mind can scarcely carry so large a mass of

detail. In the succeeding table the figures are re-cast in order to group the mortality in four periods, namely, infancy, youth, manhood, and age:—

PROPORTION OF DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGES. OUT OF 100 BURIED THERE WERE DEATHS AS UNDER:—

	In- fancy. Under 1.	Childhood and youth. 5 and under 15.	Man- hood. 15 and under 55.	Old age. 55 and over.
Wilmslow, 23 years, 1822-44 .....	31-55	9-13	34-41	24-91
Wilmslow, 23 years, 1845-67 .....	30-74	8-76	33-02	27-48
England, 7 years, 1838-44 .....	39-4	7-6	26-4	26-6
Non-members S. of F. graveyards, 85 years, 1800-84 .....	24-03	8-44	23-59	33-94
S. of Friends, Cheshire 85 years, 1800-84 .....	15-65	4-91	26-00	53-44

It will be noticed that out of every 100 children born in Wilmslow 31 died in infancy, and were carried away to the churchyard. Yet the children of Wilmslow had a better chance of life than the generality of children born in England, where the number of deaths exceeded 39. The children born among the Friends had a much better chance of life; indeed, the lessened death rate is almost startling. *Just one half died as compared with the infants of Wilmslow*, and only three-eighths of the proportion of infant deaths throughout England. Putting the fact in another form, it would have been perfectly true if the clergyman, when performing the obsequies over one half of the infants, instead of saying, "Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God of His great mercy to take unto Himself the soul of our dear brother (or sister) here departed," had said plainly, "Forasmuch as by your carelessness, ignorance, or vicious indulgence (in some few cases by your extreme poverty), you have sacrificed the life of this innocent child entrusted to your care, which, had it been consigned to certain of your neighbours, would assuredly have grown to manhood, it is for you to think, if not for me to indicate, at whose hands the life of this innocent child shall be required."

The infant mortality of the persons allied to the Friends occupies a middle place between that body and the inhabitants of Wilmslow, as indeed might have been anticipated. They were partially, but not entirely, under the influence which tended to produce the low mortality among the Friends.

Examining the number of deaths which occurred in childhood and youth, that is from 5 years of age to under 15, we find that out of 100 interments in Wilmslow during the earlier series of years, 9½ took place, and also that the improvement previously shown in the second series of years was again manifested in the deaths in this period of life. The number fell to 8½. In England generally the number was only about 7½, and thus it would appear upon a cursory examination that the lives of boys and girls were less secure in Wilmslow than in the country at large. This subject may be examined a little more closely. In Wilmslow out of 100 born, 31 had died in their infancy, leaving 69 survivors. Of these 69, 9 passed away in boyhood, that is 13 per cent. In the country generally 39 died in infancy, leaving 61 survivors, out of which number 7½ died in boyhood, being about 12 per cent. Thus Wilmslow proved to be somewhat more favourable to the life of youth than the country generally. The security of life so conspicuous among the infants of the Friends is maintained among their youth. Not quite 5 youths or young maidens fell victims, and even this small proportion is found to be still more insignificant when examined in its relation to the survivors. It is not 6 per cent., as compared with 12 and 13 per cent. in Wilmslow or England. The non-members hold, as before, a middle position, the deaths in youth being 8½ per cent. of the births, and 11 per cent. of those surviving the age of 5.

The deaths during manhood obviously consist of persons who have escaped the fatalities of early life, and yet have been unable to prolong their existence into old age. If the proportion be large, it would be satisfactory if it could be taken to indicate that lives which otherwise would have been sacrificed in early life had been preserved and protected until the period of full manhood. If, on the other hand, it indicated that lives which, under more favouring conditions, might have been extended into old age, had ended before that stage was reached, the large proportion could not be regarded other than as unsatisfactory.

In order to escape this confusion it will be needful to pass over the record of the deaths during manhood, and examine the number of those who attained old age, namely 55 and over. The improved condition of affairs in Wilmslow between the year 1845 and end of 1867, is again noticeable. The deaths of the aged during the first series of years were about 25; in the latter series they had advanced to about 27½. As compared with England generally

they were better during the later, and slightly inferior during the earlier period. The Friends again show a remarkable record. The number among that body who had attained old age exceeded 53 in the hundred, which is just twice the number who had survived in Wilmslow, or in the country generally. The non-members, as before, occupy an intermediate position.

The annual premiums paid to the several Life Assurance Offices in order to secure the payment of a stipulated sum of money on the death of the assured, are based upon the expectancy or probable duration of human life at various ages. The Friends were not slow in discovering that in consequence of the longer average duration of life of their members, they were paying more than their fair share when they took out policies of assurance. To secure for themselves the advantage which their superior longevity confers, they established an assurance office for their own body, the "Friends Provident Institution," and have the satisfaction of paying much lower premiums than are charged by other offices.

The next table shows the AVERAGE AGE AT DEATH of those buried in Wilmslow churchyard and in the burial grounds of the Friends. As the number of the Friends in the county is not large, it has been thought well to extend the area of observation by prolonging the time, as it cannot be increased in numbers. Accordingly the age at death of those who died between the commencement of the century down to 1821 inclusive is given, and next the 46 years over which the inquiries have extended in Wilmslow. The durations are almost identical, differing by only a single month. Next the total number of interments from the commencement of the century to the end of 1884 is given.

The general result is that infants born in Wilmslow lived on the average 31 years. The children of the Friends scattered promiscuously throughout the country lived on the average more than 46 years. Persons allied to the Friends lived about 33 years.

	Average age at death.		Number buried
	yrs.	mths.	
Wilmslow Churchyard, 1822-44, 23 years .....	29	10	1870
Wilmslow Churchyard, 1845-67, 23 years .....	31	7	2123
Society of Friends, Cheshire, 1800-21, 23 years .....	46	5	111
Society of Friends, Cheshire, 1822-67, 46 years .....	46	4	176

Society of Friends, 1800-84, 85 years .....	47 10 .....	346
Non-members in Society of Friends graveyards, 1800- 84, 85 years .....	37 11 .....	308

The general result is that infants born in Wilmslow lived on the average 31 years. The children of the Friends scattered promiscuously throughout the county lived on the average more than 46 years. Persons allied to the Friends lived about 38 years.

The preceding comparisons based upon the ages at death can be made without a knowledge of the number of the community from whom the deaths occurred. For many purposes, however, the information is too scanty. The most valuable deductions are obtained by ascertaining the proportion which the deaths in a community at any age bear to the number living at the same age. This information cannot be obtained without a census of the people, and such enumerations were not often taken until recent times. The following table is constructed upon this principle.

	Death-rate per 1000 persons living.
England and Wales, 1865-74, 10 years	22.01
31 cities and large towns in United Kingdom for year ending Septem- ber 27, 1884 .....	22.7
31 Ditto, year 1883 .....	23.9
23 Ditto, year 1881 .....	21.7
23 Ditto, year 1880 .....	20.5
23 Ditto, year 1879 .....	23.4
23 Ditto, year 1878 .....	24.4
London, year 1884 .....	20.4
Manchester, year 1884 .....	26.9
Society of Friends in Great Britain, 1878-84, 7 years .....	16.4

Among the many aspects in which preventible mortality may be regarded, there are three to which we may devote a little attention.

1. The mere money loss is almost incredible, and unfortunately it falls upon the class least able to bear it. The food, clothing, lodging, and washing (to omit all mention of the education) of a child from birth until it can earn sufficient money to support him or herself is by no means an insignificant amount, and the whole of the outlay has to be encountered before any return can be made. The expense made be regarded in the light of a loan advanced by the parents to be repaid in time, if not to those who have incurred the outlay, at least to the community, in taking their portion of the general labour, and sustaining their share of the public burdens. When children die the money so advanced simply becomes a bad debt it is lost and irrecoverable.

2. Death is the sequel to disease. The longest lives are generally those who have passed healthy lives. Disease may attack many times, but it can only prove fatal once. Preventible mortality presupposes preventible disease. Where such preventible mortality exists, not only have the victims been the subjects of disease during a greater proportion of their lives than if such mortality had been absent, but also those persons who had narrowly escaped early death, had not escape the repeated attacks of disease. Thus preventible mortality may be taken as an index of the preventible maladies and the needless suffering which embitter the existence of so many.

3. The indifference to human life, and to the wants of helpless infancy manifested by those who, from negligence, and even from the use of pernicious drugs, injure their children is deplorable. What is the difference either in the suffering of the helpless victim, or in the turpitude of the parent, between the sudden destruction of an infant by poison or by drowning, and the course of neglect or exposure, or the administering of unsuitable food until the feeble frame succumbs to the adverse influences? There are, as is well known, many examples of noble women in the humblest condition of life cherishing their offspring with constant and tender care, and even falling a sacrifice to their devotion. But examples of mothers of different habits are not wanting, and many men who spend nearly all their earnings in selfish drunken revels are without doubt the virtual murderers of their offspring, and by a less merciful death than laying violent hands upon them, for they condemn them to a lingering death from misery and want. We have statistics sufficiently appalling of the mortality among drunkards; can no one furnish the vital (or rather mortal) statistics of the unhappy wives and children of this terrible class?

Wilmslow.

ALFRED FRYER.

#### HISTORY OF PARISH CHURCH REGISTERS.

I send you the following contribution to your Notes and Queries *apropos* to your printing the Stockport Parish Church Registers.

The year 1558 is a date beyond which few church registers go, and but few commence at this early date, though Thomas Cromwell, with Henry VIII's authority, in 1538, enjoined that every parson, vicar, or curate for every church keep one book or register for recording the date of every wedding, christening, and burial made in his parish. Both its novelty and difficulty operated against the injunction being universally obeyed. It was a bothering and difficult business.

because the book was to be kept safe under locks and keys, in a sure coffer, provided at charge of the parish, and taken forth in the presence of the wardens for the entries to be made. In Edward VI's reign (1547), the order for keeping parish registers had to be renewed. In Queen Elizabeth's reign, every minister had to declare at his institution, "I shall keep the register book according to the Queen's injunction." In 1597, convocation took the matter up not only to enforce it universally in the two provinces, but to change the register from a paper to a parchment book. Hence many of the oldest books are evidently fair copies of the original entries; the beauty and uniform character of the writing (as much as the order of convocation) is sufficient to show this. I want to account for the fact above stated, that many of these old records commence with the year 1558. A church canon published 1604, in the main an enforcement only of existing laws, enjoined as follows, that "The day and year of every christening, marriage, and burial shall be entered (in the new parchment book)," since the law on that behalf was first made, so far as the ancient books thereof can be procured, but especially since the beginning of the reign of Elizabeth.

The registers often begin with a title. I give as an instance the title (part of it) of the All Saints' (Northampton) book:—

A regester booke containyng the names and surnames of all those that were baptized, buried, and married within the Parish Church and parish of All Saincts', in the towne of Northampton, sithence the first year of the raigne of our soueraigne ladie Elizabeth, &c.

In some places the original paper books containing earlier entries than those copied into the parchment book or roll provided after the convocation order of 1597 still exist. At Little Houghton, Northants, the parchment register begins 1558, and the original parchment book from which the transcript was made, remains and begins 1540, and St. Lawrence, Jewry, London, has the original paper book commencing 1538. Scrap of the register Leicestershire dates from 1538. There are very few so old. It was the usual practice in many places for a year's entries to be made in a loose roll, and then to be copied by the minister, who signed his name at the end, and sometimes the churchwardens added theirs. At Gayton, Northants, these are accompanied with the words "concordat cu originali." Before leaving our notice of transcripts, I may mention that the convocation order for a general transcript was enforced at least in some cases since; in the churchwardens' accounts of Clerkenwell is the entry:—

Paid unto Mr Dr Stanhope for that our register book was not engrossed on parchment, 2s 8d.

Oliver Cromwell's time makes a general break in the keeping of registers by the clergy, and occasioned a great loss of the old books. A civil registrar was to be appointed by every parish. He was to have the old books delivered up to him. This order or ordinance of Parliament was not generally complied with, and in many cases upon the return of the King when the old order of things began again, the clergy who retained them had died or gone away, and they never got back to their proper home. Only the civil registrar's book was returned, and this began the last quarter of 1653. There is usually a statement in the old register of the due appointment (for three years) of some individual named; it runs thus,

Wm. Southwell, admitted (by taking oath), to be registrar of Broomsgrove, by Geo. Milward (a justice of the peace), October 3, 1653, after a special and true election by the inhabitants, acting under an Act of Parliament dated 24th August, 1653, &c.

Where the books previous to 1653 are not lost, they have commonly a hiatus or chasm in the register of a few years—thus explained by the Kibworth register—

A.D. 1641. Know all men that the reason why little or nothing is registered from this year 1641 until the year 1649 was the civil wars between King Charles and his Parliament, which put all into a confusion until then; and neither minister nor people could quietly stay at home for one party or the other.

At Rotherby the same thing is shown very epigrammatically:—

1643, Bellum! 1644, Bellum! 1645, Bellum! . . .  
1649, 1650, 1651-4, Sequestration! Thomas Silverwood, intruder.

Remarkably few marriages were registered during the civil war in the disturbed districts; the young men had to fight instead of marry. The baptisms fell off partly because of the religious opinions, which held infant baptism unlawful or unnecessary, partly because the public ministers had scruples as to the worthiness of parents. The children of such were carried to other places to be baptised, where the minister had no authority to command the registrar to enter them, partly because a little fee had to be paid for registering. The books, when kept by civil registrars, usually mix a list of baptisms with others of marriages and burials. The three classes of entries go backwards and forwards, and here and there, in a very confusing manner, being first made on loose sheets of parchment and then bound together. They are generally in English (instead of Latin), and the handwriting is plain enough, but signs of illiterateness, so to speak, appear. For instance, the name Glover is spelt Glóweer, Weafer for Weaver, soone for son. Antoniteb is put down for Anthony Tebb,

anclarke and edmonreve for Edmond Reve, and when capitals are attempted big printing is resorted to, and the letter now and then is turned wrong way about, e.g., Edward, sonne of W. Wood and an his wife. Contractions are used, by which m or n are represented by a mark over the previous letter, as Goodm̄ for Goodman. Two small f's seem frequently to represent F; e.g., ffrema stands for Freeman and ffauckner for Falkner.

J. GOSNOL (Vicar).

Asbby Folville.

#### RANDOLPH CALDECOTT.

Mr Randolph Caldecott, who died in Florida, February 12th, was born in 1845, at Chester, and educated at Henry VIII.'s School in that city. He seems at first to have been intended for some other line of life than that in which he afterwards became famous, for he studied at no art school and was pupil to no painter. He was, in fact, nearly 30 before his name became known to the public; so that his career as an artist, or at least as an artist of note, may be said to have lasted little more than 10 years. It began with the publication of his illustrations to Washington Irving's "Old Christmas," in 1875 (Macmillan and Co.), a book which was followed next year by "Bracebridge Hall." It was not till 1878, with the publication of the first of his coloured "Picture books," that Mr Caldecott's fame began to be very general. "John Gilpin," how-

ever, "The house that Jack built," and "The mad dog," made a prodigious hit. Besides he appealed to the interest, almost universal in England, which is felt in animals and their humours. Who can ever forget "The dog that worried the cat," that atrocious but withal amiable monster, who sits exhausted with his effort, but happy in the consciousness that the effort has been virtuous? Another set of subjects Mr Caldecott began about this time to make his own—the humours of the hunting field, treated not with Leech's realism, but in his own half-antiquarian spirit. These, with other scenes that grouped themselves naturally round the idea of Christmas, formed the staple of his annual contributions to the Christmas number of the *Graphic*. They were also the favourite themes of the drawings which he from time to time exhibited at the institute, of which he became a member in 1882. In the forthcoming number of the *English Illustrated Magazine* there is to be an article on the same topic, written and illustrated by Mr Caldecott; an article that will now have a melancholy interest, and that will show how bravely he struggled with disease. For a long time, indeed, his health was bad; an affection of the heart made movement difficult, except, strange to say, the movement of riding. Last autumn he and his wife left home for Florida, in search of health; but the voyage proved extremely trying, and the bad winter, which killed all the oranges, was fatal to the invalid.—*Stockport Advertiser*.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT SIXTY YEARS AGO.

#### III.

In the year 1823 Mr Holt, clock manufacturer, had his jenny spinning works in Howard-street, Portwood. Besides those already mentioned, who engaged successfully in the cotton industry in Portwood, there were several others, who rented portions of some of these large mills in the neighbourhood of Portwood, who were trying hard to succeed, but never made any headway. Mr Robert Braddock, Mr Bradley, Mr Buckley, and Mr Ianson were of this number. Mr Braddock became a jenny spinner for Mr Bennison, in Bridgefield, and I was his piecer a short time. Mr Bradley resided in St. Peter's-gate, and through his non-success he was often in sore straits; his hands on several occasions after finishing their week's work in Portwood

having to go to his residence on the Saturday night and wait there a considerable time before they got their wages. Mr Buckley turned his attention to cotton band manufacturing, and succeeded better. Mr Ianson had a predilection for mechanics, and, instead of working the machinery he had to the best of his ability, he devoted much of his time in trying to bring out new patents, by which he did not reap much benefit. He died at a premature age, and other people reaped the fruits of his fertile brain. A cotton mill adjoining the gasworks in Millgate was in full work at this date. This old mill has been used for various purposes since. At one time it was Mr Bardsley's warp sizing establishment, at another it was Mr Ward's bobbin-turning works; what use it is put to now I know not. The mill in Warren-street known as the "Cast Metal Shop" was in full work then, and was worked very many years by the Clayton family, who resided in premises adjoining. I have heard two reasons why this cotton mill was called the



"Cast Metal Shop." One was that it was the first cotton mill in the town where a steam engine was worked with a cast iron swing beam, the other engines in the town at that time having a deal balk to act as a swing beam. The other reason given was that it was the only mill in the town which had cast iron window frames, the others all being made of wood.

The Higher Hillgate Mill, last worked by the Messrs Fernley and Bradley, was then owned by Mr Brentnall, and was in full work preparing rovings for the numerous jenny spinners then working in the town. I have been told that Mr Brentnall was much respected by his workpeople and by those he traded with. Towards the close of his career something preyed very heavily upon his mind, and he committed suicide in his own engine house. The large mill in Higher Hillgate now owned by Messrs Christy, was owned and worked with great regularity many years by Mr William Radcliffe, who was mayor of Stockport in the year 1804. When Mr Radcliffe commenced to manufacture cotton warp sizing was in a very crude state. We had several sizing firms in the town in the year 1823. We had one in Chestergate on the site now occupied by the Mersey Inn and the shops adjoining. This sizing establishment was afterwards the meeting-place of the Primitive Methodist society. We had another sizing concern behind the reservoirs fronting St. Peter's-square, now covered by the Opera House and adjoining shops. When a lad I frequently visited this place, and saw how they went through the process of sizing. There was a large boiler in the yard; the sizing ingredients were put into this boiler and made to boil. The warps were then put in and allowed to stew for a certain time, then they were taken out and wound round large reels and taken into the stove room to dry. The warps were then re-balled off the reels, and were then ready to be wound on the weaver's beam, and the sizer had done his work.

Mr William Radcliffe invented a machine which could be worked by one man, and which sized, dried, and beamed the warps in one process. This machine was called a dressing frame; it became very popular, and was worked in almost every weaving mill in Stockport and elsewhere. I had the opportunity of seeing and examining Mr Radcliffe's model of this machine when it was exhibited at the Mechanics' Exhibition, held in the old Theatre in the year 1840. Mr Radcliffe had two sons, who became mill-

managers in the town. The last I was of them, both brothers were managing the Mersey Mills for Mr W. H. Smith. There is nothing now left in Stockport to remind one of this once honoured and clever Stockportonian but the street which perpetuates his name in Higher Hillgate.

We have had a number of very clever men in Stockport, possessed of mechanical and scheming propensities—viz., Messrs Radcliffe, Goodier, Horrocks, Sowerbutts, C. Axon, Brown, and Powell. Mr Goodier started the first power looms in Stockport. Mr Horrocks was a clever man at mechanics, and by his ability he became widely known as "Schemer Horrocks." He devoted much of his time in improving the power loom. Mr Sowerbutts was engaged many years in the same pursuit. Mr Charles Axon laid claim to inventing an important tappit motion to the power looms, and Messrs Brown and Powell took out a patent for an improved throstle frame. Mr John Garside, of Portwood, was the patentee of an improved mangle. These clever and once very popular personages of Stockport are now almost forgotten.

In the year 1823 Mr Jesse Howard (who was Mayor of Stockport in the year 1808) had the top Carr Mill on a lease, and was working it successfully. Mr Swain's Mill, which stood on the site behind the Reform Club, Lower Hillgate, was in full operation. Mr Bertinshaw was struggling hard to work the St. Peter's-square Mill with success, but he did not succeed. This mill has had a chequered history, since Mr Bertinshaw's time many having tried to work it with success who have failed in their endeavours. The last person who owned this mill was Mr Brooks. He let the mill in compartments to billy slubbers, spindle makers, bobbin turners, picker makers, &c. On the death of Mr Brooks the old mill was put up by auction and bought by our esteemed townsman, Mr Hidderley, J.P. Mr Hidderley had the old mill pulled down, and erected the handsome and commodious shops which now stand on the site. Mr Priestnall's silk mill on the Top o'th Hill still found employment for a number of persons of both sexes in the year 1823. The Gee family, who built the mansion in Holly Wood, and resided there very many years, had two cotton mills in Edgeley, which were worked with the utmost regularity and success. Many of the hands who had worked at these mills for the Messrs Gee nearly all their life have been heard to say "That they did not know what it was to have a play day whilst working for the Gees." The last male representative of this old

Stockport family went to end his days somewhere in the South of England. Mrs Gee, his widow, I think, has during the past year been seen often in town, though I daresay through the lapse of time and the changes of years she has passed unknown and unnoticed in the streets where once she would have received high deference. The old lady seemed in good health and apparently in easy circumstances. The rest of this ancient Stockport family repose in the Parish Churchyard. Mr Waterhouse, who was the manager for the Messrs Gee, afterwards carried these works on many years with great regularity up to his death. The large cotton mill has now disappeared, and on its site has sprung up like magic a little town. Mr Middleton, who, I am informed, built the Lark-hill House and resided there (the late residence of Mr Thomas Fernley), owned and worked the mill in Brinksway, on the Cheshire side of the river. Mr Middleton had also an interest in the Hope Hill Mill, in the firm of Rooth, Middleton, and Mayer. This Brinksway mill has been tenanted by many seeking wealth since Mr Middleton's time. Mr Thomas Hunt, a highly respected townsman, struggled hard there for many years trying to make this mill pay its way, with little success. Since then it has been put to various uses. It was finally burned down about four years ago.

I shall continue my remarks on the cotton industry in Stockport in the year 1823 in my next paper.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

(To be continued.)

#### SEVERE WINTERS.

As we have had during the present winter weather of unusual severity, it may perhaps interest some of your readers if I furnish them during the next few weeks with a list of examples of what may justly be termed the old-fashioned winters. When I have exhausted my list as far as it goes perhaps some other contributor may be able to add more. The period I propose to deal with covers something over 1400 years, and is taken from an article by Sir John Leslie, at Wilmslow.

WILLIAM ST. LAWRENCE.

- 401. The Black Sea was entirely frozen over.
- 462. The Danube was frozen, so that Theodomer marched over the ice to avenge his brother's death in Suabia.
- 545. The cold was so intense in winter that the birds allowed themselves to be caught by the hand.
- 763. Not only the Black Sea, but the Strait of the Dardanelles was frozen over. The snow in some places

rose fifty feet high, and the ice was so heaped in the cities as to push down the walls.

800. The winter was intensely cold.

822. The great rivers of Europe, such as the Danube, the Elbe, and the Seine, were so hard frozen as to bear heavy waggons for a month.

860. The Adriatic was frozen.

874. The winter was very long and severe. The snow continued to fall from the beginning of November to the end of March, and encumbered the ground so much that the forests were inaccessible for the supply of food.

891 and 893. The vines were killed by the frost and the cattle perished in their stalls.

991. The winter lasted very long, with extreme severity. Everything was frozen, the crops totally failed, and famine and pestilence closed the year.

1044. Great quantities of snow lay upon the ground. The vines and fruit trees were destroyed, and famine ensued.

1067. The cold was so intense that most of the travellers in Germany were frozen to death on the roads.

1124. The winter was uncommonly severe, and the snow lay very long.

1133. It was extremely cold in Italy. The Po was frozen from Cremona to the sea; the heaps of snow rendered the roads impassable; the wine casks were burst, and even the trees split by the action of the frost with immense noise.

1179. The snow was eight feet deep in Austria, and lay till Easter. The crops and vintage failed, and a great murrain consumed the cattle.

1209 and 1210 were both of them very severe, inasmuch that the cattle died for want of fodder.

1216. The Po froze fifteen ells deep, and wine burst the casks.

1234. The Po was again frozen, and loaded wagons crossed the Adriatic to Venice. A fine forest was killed at Ravenna.

1236. The Danube was frozen to the bottom, and remained for a considerable time in that state.

1269. The frost was most intense in Scotland, and the ground bound up. The Categat was frozen between Norway and Jutland.

1281. Such quantities of snow fell in Austria as to bury the very houses.

1292. The Rhine was frozen over at Breysach, and bore loaded wagons. One sheet of ice extended between Norway and Jutland, so that travellers passed with ease; and in Germany 600 peasants were employed to clear away the snow for the advance of the Austrian army.

1305. The rivers in Germany were frozen, and much distress was occasioned by the scarcity of provisions and forage.

(To be continued.)

## STOCKPORT PARISH REGISTERS.

II.

SEPTEMBER, 1584.—CONTINUED.

BURIED.

11.—John Arderne of Hawarden gent.

[This is the first entry of any person of note, and in order to distinguish him as such it is written in a larger and more legible hand. As if to do away with all uncertainty, it is more complete than the other entries, thus: "John Arderne of Hawarden gent was buried the 11th 1584." Harden Hall, Bredbury, is, of course, the place of residence indicated. This plan of indicating the baptism, marriage, or burial of important personages by a different style of writing is maintained throughout the entire volume.]

14.—Anne wyfe of Edmund Wyht.

17.—The daughter of John Bradley of Redish.

19.—The wyfe of the said John Bradley of Redish.

30.—Renold Mellor being kild in a Marlpitt.

OCTOBER, 1584.

BAPTISED.

2.—Ric sonne of Raffe Arderne of Crookiley gent.

6.—Johan daughter of John Stockporte.

8.—Willm sonne of Leadbeater of Bramhall.

8.—Francis daughter of Richard Comberbach.

19.—Margery daughter of Willm Ridgway of Stockport.

21.—Robte sonne of Richard Ashtone.

23.—Margret daughter of John Browne.

30.—George sonne of Raffe Haughton.

MARRIED.

25.—John Pycroft and Margery Wharnby.

BURIED.

3.—John Gee of the Foxholes in Hyde.

4.—Robte Mottershead of Bramhall.

5.—The wyfe of Reinold Henshaw.

6.—Johan Rodes wydow.

14.—Robte sonne of Robte Daniell.

NOVEMBER, 1584.

BAPTISED.

1.—Anne daughter of Ottiwell Dodge of Stockport.

13.—Richard sonne of Francis Clark of Stockport.

15.—Anne daughter of Henry Radcliffe of Manchester.

24.—Henry sonne of Robte Bancroft.

27.—Henry sonne of Robte Cooke of Bramhall.

27.—Ales daughter of John Shepley of Hyde.

MARRIED.

8.—Raffe Woode and Maude Byron.

28.—John Watson and Elizabeth Conor.

29.—Raffe Smith and Ellen Downes.

BURIED.

9.—Wydow Bancroft of Stockport.

14.—Johan Hibbert of the Apethorne wydow.

15.—Catherine wyfe of Peter Stanley.

DECEMBER, 1584.

BAPTISED.

6.—John sonne of John Bromhill.

17.—Charles sonne of Charles Sydebothom of Werneth.

20.—Margret daughter of Robte Lees of Stockport.

20.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Rodes of Bramhall.

21.—John sonne of John Whittacres of Stockport.

21.—Ellen daughter of Thomas Hobson.

27.—Rondull sonne of Robte Ridgway.

30.—Jane daughter of John Cooke of Stockport.

MARRIED.

20.—Willm Brooke and Dorothy Dauenport.

BURIED.

1.—Nicholas Greene of Stockport.

6.—A woman that dwelt at Henry Collier his house at Harrytowne.

22.—Henry sonne of Robte Cooke of Bramhall.

23.—The wyfe of Olliver Mosse of Heaton.

JANUARIE, 1584-5.

BAPTISED.

4.—Willm sonne of Thomas Greene.

7.—Willm and John sonnes of Hughe Torkinton.

8.—Margett daughter of Roger Horton.

10.—Thomas sonne of Edward Rodes of Stockport.

15.—Thomas sonne of John Leather.

15.—Ursula daughter of Robte Lingard.

16.—Jane daughter of Raffe Bowershouse.

17.—Jane daughter of John Henshaw of Bramhall.

22.—Robte sonne of Robte Cleaton of Werneth.

28.—Thomas sonne of Em Thoumston of Northbury.

28.—Jane daughter of John Oldham of Stockport.

[There is a discrepancy here, that is evident. After the entry of the baptism of "Robte sonne of Robte Cleaton of Werneth" on the 22nd follows the baptism of "Thomas sonne of Em Thoumston" of Northbury and the burial of the said Em Thoumston of Northbury both on the 28th. Then comes the entry of the baptism of "Jane daughter of John Oldham of Stockport on the 28th." There is no mistaking the date, they are plain enough.]

MARRIED.

19.—Ric Gerard parson of Stockport and Ursula daughter unto Raffe Arderne of Hawarden Esquier.

[In this as in the entry of the burial of John Arderne of Hawarden the particulars are written in a much plainer hand, the name of the bride's home Hawarden in this case also meaning Harden, near Stockport. The marriage is thus entered:]

Mar. Ric Gerard parson of Stockport and Ursula daughter unto Raffe Arderne of Hawarden Esquier were married the 19th 1584.

The reader should also bear in mind that in

citing dates of events occurring between January 1 and March 25 in any year between 1582 and 1752 it is customary to insert both the civil and historical year. Previous to the last named year it was usual for two dates to be used, one for the civil and the other for the historical; the former commenced March 25, and the latter January; thus to be strictly accurate the marriage of Parson Gerard should have been entered as taking place "the 19th [of January] 1584-5," the last figure indicating the historical year according to our computation.]

BURIED.

- 19.—Margret daughter of Roger Horton.
- 19.—The wyfe of Edward Hudson.
- 22.—George Haughton of Northburye.
- 28.—Em Thounston of Northbury.
- 30.—Edward Bradbury of Torkinton.

APRIL, 1584-5.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Ridgeway.
- 6.—A chyld of Raffe Nicholson of Kringlebrook.
- 10.—Mathew sonne of Thomas fallowes.
- 15.—Elizabeth daughter of John Thorpe of Bramhall.
- 20.—Lawrance sonne of Jehn Cottrell of Stockport.
- 22.—Alexander sonne of John Robinson of Stockport.
- 28.—Margret daughter of Willm Hanley.

MARRIED.

- 10.—Raffe Elcocke and Ales Brooke.
- 15.—Reinolde Lingard and Johan Levings.
- 22.—Ellis Adcroft and Margret.

BURIED.

- 6.—The wyfe of Raffe Tomlinson of the Water Meeting.
- 9.—Richard Chatterton.
- 12.—Mathew sonne of Thomas fallowes.
- 14.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Ward.
- 21.—The wyfe of John Hall of Hyde.

MARCH, 1584-5.

BAPTISED.

- 6.—Raffe sonne of Thomas Dickinson.
- 9.—Willm sonne of John Houghe of Stockport.
- 13.—Willm sonne of Thomas Cheetham of Woodley.
- 13.—Ales daughter of George Burges.
- 14.—Olyver sonne of Roger Rocroft.
- 18.—Alexander sonne of George Wharmby curate of Gorton.
- 19.—Ales daughter of Alexander Heritage.
- 25.—Edmunde sonne of Thomas Lingard.

[This and the two following baptisms are entered under a separate heading "March 1585," thus indicating the commencement of the new year.]

- 26.—Anne daughter of George Hollenworth.
- 28.—Grace daughter of Raffe Bradley.

BURIED.

- 5.—John Bredbury of Torkinton.
- 11.—George Holme of Beacom.
- 18.—John Smith of Redish.
- 8.—Edward Ward of Stockport

APRIL, 1585.

BAPTISED.

- 7.—Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Andrew.
- 9.—Katherine daughter of Raffe Knowles.
- 12.—John sonne of Raffe Henshaw.
- 13.—Willm sonne of Willm Brooke of Bramhall.
- 18.—Willm sonne of Roger Ryder.
- 25.—Ellen daughter of Hughe Hanley.

MARRIED.

- 14.—John Stones and Ellen Spooner.

BURIED.

- 1.—Nicholas Booth of Pointon.
- 4.—The wyfe of Henry Brooke of Stockport.
- 8.—Margery Brentnall of Bramhall.
- 23.—Thomas Elcocke of Stockport.
- 25.—An infant of Edward Warrene of Pointon.
- 27.—Margret daughter of Willm Nicholson.
- 27.—Margret Lynney of the parish of Manchester.

MAY, 1585.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—Jane daughter of Georg Brookshaw.
- 9.—Richard sonne of Reinold Nicholson.
- 14.—John sonne of Rolstill.
- 22.—Margret daughter of William Davenport of Bramhall Esquier.
- 28.—Anne daughter of Alexander Slade.

MARRIED.

- 21.—Charles Hencliffe and Ellen Worsencroft.

BURIED.

- 4.—Robte Malley of Stockport.
- 14.—Willm Ashton of Denton.
- 17.—Ales Adshead of Torkinton.
- 19.—Ales wyfe of Roger Allen.
- 19.—Cicelye daughter of Walter Machen.
- 22.—John Charleton of Stockport.
- 25.—Ales Baguley.
- 28.—Margret Howell.

JUNE, 1585.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Edward sonne of Thomas Bowerhouse.
- 6.—Willm sonne of Willm Rowbothom of Bramhall.
- 13.—Bryan sonne of Willm Wharnby.
- 23.—Anne daughter of Alexander Holmes of Heaton Norris.
- 24.—Gilbert sonne of Gilbert Compton.
- 24.—Ales daughter of Willm Pownall.

MARRIED.

- 6.—John Taylor and Elizabeth Lees.
- 20.—Raffe Stanley and Margret Richardson.

## BURIED.

- 2.—Elizabeth Adshead of Torkinton.
- 3.—Katherine Bate of Bramhall.
- 5.—Alexander sonne of John Robinson of Stockport.
- 6.—An infant of Shuttleworthe of Brinnington.
- 19.—Nicholas Houghton of Houghton.
- 27.—Thomas Lomes of Stockport.

[This last entry is written over an erasure. What the previous name was there is not the slightest trace. What makes me think some other name than that of Lomes occupied this space in the first instance, is that the erasing knife has not been used to make a correction of a word or a date, but the whole width of the page, and sufficient in depth for two entries, has the parchment been rudely scraped. Still the entry to be found there is written by the same hand as the rest at this time.]

## JULY, 1585.

## BAPTISED.

- 4.—Samuell sonne of Raffe Didsburye.
- 10.—Richard sonne of Raffe Hardy.
- 11.—Willm sonne of John Bennetson.
- 14.—George sonne of John Browne.
- 22.—Dorothy daughter of Willm Thorpe of Bramhall.
- 30.—Margret daughter of Willm Willmson.

## MARRIED.

- 5.—John Sydebothom and Elizabeth Bradshaw.
- 13.—John Pickford and Johan Chadweek.
- 18.—Guy Seddon and Margret Sydebothom.
- 23.—Raffe Browne and Anne Brookshaw.
- 29.—Laurence Robothom and Jane Phallows *als* Richardson.
- 29.—Thomas Shenton and Johan Charlton.

## AUGUST, 1585.

## BAPTISED.

- 7.—John sonne of Raffe Daniell.
- 9.—Anne daughter of John Wharnby of Stockport.
- 11.—Jane daughter of Alexander Houghton.
- 13.—Robte sonne of John Johnson.
- 13.—Reinolde sonne of Edward Booth.
- 22.—Margery daughter of John Henshall of Bramhall.
- 25.—Henry sonne of Willm Sande of Marple.
- 26.—Raffe sonne of Rondull Holmes.
- 27.—Margery daughter of Reinold Ashton.
- 27.—Ellen daughter of John Higham.
- 29.—Jane daughter of Charles Stockport.
- 30.—John sonne of John Pycroft.

## MARRIED.

- 26.—Homffrey Bridge and Elizabeth Hibbert.

## BURIED.

- 2.—An infant of Robte Cheethams.
- 7.—Willm Booth of Hyde Banks.
- 10.—Nicholas flaffaker.
- 24.—Anne Ryder.
- 24.—Thomas Taylor.

- 25.—Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Andrew.

- 30.—Margret Bramhall.

## SEPTEMBER, 1585.

## BAPTISED.

- 3.—Margery daughter of Edward Brooke of Stockport.
- 8.—Ellinor daughter of Willm Nicholson Stockport.
- 25.—Margret daughter of George Elcocke of Heaton Norris.
- 29.—John sonne of James Dickson of Stockport.
- 29.—Willim sonne of George Rediaha.
- 30.—Elizabeth daughter of John Wyht.

## MARRIED.

- 21.—Peter Pimlott and Ellen Nicholson.
- 21.—Nicholas Holme and Ales Ryle.

## BURIED.

- 4.—Margret daughter of William Davenport of Bramhall Esquier.
- 9.—Edward sonne of Thomas Bowerhouse.
- 14.—William Davenport of Bramhall Esquier.

[On referring to Earwaker's *East Cheshire*, the following particulars relating to this member of the Davenport family are found: He was the only son of Sir William Davenport, Knight, by Margaret, daughter of George Booth, of Durham, in whose Inquisition post-mortem, held 1576, the son was entered as being 34 years of age, which would thus bring his age at the time of his death, September 6, 1585, to be 43 years. The William Davenport whose death is above recorded, married Margaret, daughter of Richard Ashton, of Middleton, and by her was father of six sons and one daughter. His eldest son, William, who succeeded to the estates and was subsequently knighted, served as High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1604; another son, Humphrey, was also knighted, and eventually became Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer. The Margaret Davenport who was buried on September 4, 1585, as shewn above, was granddaughter of the William Davenport buried this day, being the second child of his son William then aged 23 years. She would be about six months old.]

- 19.—Robte Cheetham of Rediaha.
- 21.—Elizabeth daughter of Richard Shepley.
- 26.—Richard sonne of Ales Taylor.
- 26.—Edward Hurst of Stockport.

## OCTOBER, 1585.

## BAPTISED.

- 10.—Ales daughter of John Rode.
- 17.—Elizabeth daughter of James Bredbury.
- 17.—Humffrey sonne of Byrcha.
- 20.—Margery daughter of John Robynson.

MARRIED.

26.—John Scofield and Ales Marsland.

BURIED.

6.—A chyld of James Sydebothom's of Marple.

8.—The wyfe of Bartholomew Collier.

Didsbury.

E. W. BULKLEY.

HISTORY OF PARISH CHURCH REGISTERS.

[SECOND PAPER.]

The nearly general custom of registration owing to the universal commotion occasioned by the civil war, and also the displacement on a large scale of the old clergy and the introduction into the Church of a new state of things, made fresh legislative direction needful if registering was to be continued. The Book of Common Prayer was proscribed, and the Directory for Public Worship, put forth January 1644-5, took its place. The Directory ordained that "a fair register book of vellum should be kept, properly filled up, in every parish," and births, as well as baptisms, were to be registered by the minister. The Act of Parliament passed August, 1653, conflicted with this rubric, since a lay registrar henceforward had charge of the parish register. This Act both authorised a publication of banns after church service, or at market-places, by the appointed registrar, and civil marriages. The man and woman had to appear before a mayor or magistrate, and then the man, holding the woman's hand, declared that in the presence of God he took that woman for his wife, and also promised, in the presence of God and before the witnesses present, to be unto her a loving and faithful husband. The woman, in her turn, promised and declared similarly. It seems incredible, yet for a short time no other form of marriage whatever was lawful. W. Penn, the Quaker, had said that before the Fall God joined Adam and Eve, and that in ancient Scripture times persons took each other in marriage in assemblies of elders, and therefore his society were directed to abandon apostate usages. A book called "The Old English Puritan," by J. Goree, M.A., 1646, shows how the nation had been prepared for such a great innovation as the enforcement of civil marriage and the abandonment of all religious forms. Goree says:—"His (the O.E.P.'s) first care was to serve God, and do what was right in His sight. He esteemed order in the house of God, but would not, under colour of that, submit to superstitious rites, which are superfluous and perish in the use." The authors of the Directory issued January 3rd, 1644-5, explained their views very carefully, hoping thus to avoid hurting the tender consciences of such crotchety people. The Directory said, "Because such as marry are to marry in the Lord, and have special need of instruction, direction, and exhortation from the Word of God at their entering into this new condition, and because they

have need of the blessing of God on them, therein we judge it expedient that marriage be solemnised by a lawful minister of the Word, that he may accordingly counsel them and pray for a blessing on them." So, as we have it remarked in some register books, marriages were mostly celebrated in churches "in the Presbyterian way," and this continued, I imagine, to 1661. In the Ashby Folville register the first time the words "were lawfully married" is under day 21, February, 1654, and I feel pretty confident this form implied a civil marriage before a magistrate. In the register of Appleby, Leicestershire, is a copy of the Protestation of 1641 required to be taken of everyone 16 years of age; it was signed by 144, who also took an oath. In the register of Eastwell, where the Duke of Edinburgh now lives, there is also a copy of the Solemn League and Covenant of 1643 against Episcopacy and monarchy, signed by 19 persons. In 1661 the ejected clergy recovered their old places, and the registers being given up to them, the register of Mancetter, Warwickshire, witnesses to the event by a note, "This book was returned by W. Wilson, late registrar, to me, Francis Bacon, April, 1661."

The sweating sickness or plague, which in London in 1603, and again in 1638, carried off 30,578 persons and then 10,400, appears from the registers to have visited severally many country towns and parishes.

The ravages made by this horrible disease can be judged by inference from the following table referring to Northampton. Twice the plague broke out in that town, 1605 and in 1638.

|          | All    | St.         | St.   | St.     |       |
|----------|--------|-------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Burials. | Saints | Sepulchre's | Giles | Peter's | Total |
| In 1604  | 97     | 15          | 18    | 28      | 150   |
| 1605     | 401    | 16          | 130   | 26      | 623   |
| 1606     | 87     | 27          | 18    | —       | 132   |
| 1637     | 66     | 33          | 24    | 5       | 127   |
| 1638     | 248    | 114         | 180   | 19      | 561   |
| 1639     | 80     | 13          | 10    | 6       | 149   |

Many soldiers fell in the little but frequent encounters of Roundheads and Cavaliers, and where they fell they buried them. A struggle took place close to Melton Mowbray, and six years since several skeletons of the killed were found close to the town. It seems strange that they were not brought to the churchyard there. Odd ones were. Here is a case:

"1643. *Homo, occisus et acpultus fuit*, Nov. 1." Sometimes no entries of such burials in churchyards were made. No doubt because the names were all unknown. In Rotherby churchyard, near Melton Mowbray, soldiers' skeletons are known to lie together, but the register has no record of their interment.

Latin was once generally used in making entries, but this was optional; some rectors kept to this language and some preferred English mixed with Latin words. At length Latin completely died out.

The little neat bits to be met with occasionally impart life and interest to pages of dreary repetition of the accustomed forms—*honesta vidua*; *filius populi*; a syngel woman; an ancient batchilir; an aged celibate; a noble warryore. After the 34pm. of 13th child of Mr Howes, Vicar (*Deus Opt. Max. illi benedicat*) is added, may the truly good and Almighty God bless the lad; "The child of a Roague." Under buriale, 1630, after a woman's name it is added, "apprehended for a witch" (whether done to death as one is not said.) In Halifax Register "*sus per coll.*" (hanged summarily by magistrates' order) o'ten occurs. Halifax and Jedburg *Justice* was terrible, but the petition in the beggar's litany ran thus,

From Hell, Hull, and Halifax,  
Good Lord deliver us.

A remarkable renewal of marriage vows is recorded in Bermondsey Register, date 1604. An Enoch Arden then returned and claimed and regained his wife from another man; "the man's speech" is inserted. He said (in church), "Elizabeth my beloved wife I am sorie that I have so long absented my seaffe from thee, whereby thou shouldst be occasioned to take another man to be thy husband—therefore, I do now vow and promise in the sight of God and this companie to take thee again as my owne, and will not onlie forgive thee but also dwell with thee and do all other duties unto

thee as I promised at our marriage." The woman's vow exactly corresponds.

Ashby Folville.

J. GODSON, (Vicar.)

## Queries.

LORD MAYOR'S FEAST.—I happened to be among a number of gentlemen at a dinner at Sandbach last week, when a subject was raised which interested me very much. A leading gentleman from Wheelock urged that there had been a Lord Mayor's feast at Wheelock at one period of its history. I should be glad to know if further particulars can be obtained upon this interesting topic. A

CHESHIRE BIBLIOGRAPHY.—In 1677 was printed in London a small quarto entitled "A Warning to Stand to Beware of Quakers and Quakerism by Occasioning a Dispute at Arley in Cheshire between John Cheyney and Roger Haydock, a sect master and speaker to Quakers, on Tuesday, January 23, 1676." I should be glad if any of your readers can identify the above John Cheyney as the author of the book in question. I should also be thankful for any particulars as to his life and labours, and whether he was a native of this county. BIBLIOPHILE

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SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1886.

## Notes.

### A SABBATH DAY'S JOURNEY.

In this paper it is proposed to ask the reader to assume the scallop hat and sandalshoon, and make a pilgrimage to two shrines among those everlasting hills which bound our horizon on the east. Lord Bacon wrote that "to speak agreeably to him with whom we deal is more than to speak in good words or in good order." Without considering too minutely if such were the precise meaning which the "wisest, greatest, meanest of mankind," intended, let us interpret the words, thus—the conversation arising during a pleasant ramble will be better by way of variety than persevering without a break with the subjects hitherto selected for consideration.]

If the morning of the Sunday which brought February to its close had been compared for coldness with any other morning during the past, or rather present, long winter, it would certainly have held its own. Perhaps the thermometer on other occasions might have shewn a somewhat shorter column of mercury, but the piercing wind more than compensated for the fewer degrees of frost. The feeble grey light of dawn did little to brighten a landscape which, under the malign influence of the biting east wind, was sombre enough even in broad day, and the only suggestion of life came from the cold lustre of the waning crescent moon, which seemed to rush steadily through the scattered clouds towards that part of the horizon over which a fuller light shewed where the sun in his appointed time would rise.

The roads were smooth and hard as metal, and the pleasant rapid ring of the horse's feet awoke echoes which are only to be heard when the village

is hushed in silence. The clock had chimed the quarters, and the large tenor bell in the church tower was striking six when we passed the Rectory garden, and could scarcely discern the rounded form of the large bay tree. Although not adhering too closely to the injunction respecting the number of coats which pilgrims should carry, and although warm capes and rugs were superadded *ad libitum*, the cold was not to be successfully defied, and the acclivity which commences at Mottram Park was gladly accepted as an excuse for a brisk walk. Our course revealed one or two charming bits of characteristic Cheshire scenery. Adjoining the road several curious timbered cottages, with their lattice windows glazed with green or brownish glass blotched and wavy, tell of the time when the neighbouring old hall was tenanted by the ancient and renowned family of Calveley, celebrated in Froissart's chronicles. At the turn of the road where the incline commences the stately gate-posts stand, stark, stiff, and immovable, like sentinels, under the shade of noble oaks, whose fantastic branches are seen to perfection when the foliage is absent. The character of the comparatively modern entrance to the park clearly indicates the time of George II., and we may almost expect to see the squire emerge from the gates, habited in his laced coat, his wig terminating behind in the then new and fashionable pigtail, surmounted by the Kevenhuller, the long stiff formal feather of which is secured by a rosette on the side of this once celebrated German hat.

At the southern corner of the park Mottram Cross rears its tall shaft, and Heley Hill is reached. It was there that a many cruel bull-baiting was witnessed by persons still living. A little further on the left stands Lee Hall, which commands an extensive view to the north and east. It seems but yesterday that a gentle and lovely girl was taken thence as a bride, only to sicken of fever, which fastened on her at Rome during her honeymoon. She was doomed to yield up her innocent young life, and to carry her wreath of orange blossom, mingled with cypress, and her wedding garments to her tomb.

Half a mile further, Spittal House stands between the road and the river. The timbered farm buildings attest their own antiquity, and the field called the Abbot's Hay must have acquired its name before the dissolution of the monasteries, when the lands at Prestbury were owned by the abbey of St. Werburgh, Chester. Does not the name "Le Spittle Howse," as formerly written,

suggest an occupation by the Knights Hospitallers, perhaps at the time when they were the owners of Fulshaw?

The wide street of Prestbury, blocked at both ends with substantial houses (one rising to the dignity of a hall), was untraversed by vehicle or pedestrian. We drove over the spot where Philip Bracegirdle and hundreds of others, now all, or nearly all, finally departed, saw the chained bear baited by dogs; but the place then so full of noise and confusion was now as silent as the churchyard itself. Few villages are more attractive than Prestbury; its beautiful church, restored from designs by Sir Gilbert Scott, would alone amply reward a lengthened visit. To the antiquarian, the Norman chapel, a distinct building within the churchyard, is an object of especial interest, as it is certainly the most ancient edifice left standing in this part of the county, having been erected shortly after the Conquest. As the mariners when passing the Inchcape rock blest the abbot of Aberbrothock, so on driving past the rectory we pronounced a benediction on the priest of Prestbury, not alone in consequence of his zeal for the restoration of his beautiful church, but also on account of his bringing the corporation of Macclesfield to book for polluting the river, and thus benefitting every dweller near its banks between the ancient borough and Lymm, where it falls into the Mersey. The condition of the evergreens in the gardens at the lower end of the village might serve us instead of a thermometer. Each plant shows distress when the temperature falls to its own starvation point, and will perish when the cold becomes still more intense. The wind and the degree of humidity have a modifying influence, but at four degrees below the freezing point the laurustinus, gorse, broom, the common yew and the osmanthus are quite unaffected, while the Irish yew, ivy, arbutus, and box are contracted and darkened by the cold. Other evergreens betray the extent of their suffering at that temperature still more decidedly, especially the Wellingtonia, the retinospera, and the golden yew; the poor rhododendrons hang their leaves vertically, as if dying in consequence of drought. The interval between the point of visible distress and that which entails death, differs with different plants; for example, the arbutus perishes at a temperature which the common rhododendron, a member of the same family, sustains without injury; indeed, this latter shrub, although ready enough to hang its leaves at 28°, can survive intense cold. The common laurel is cut down to the ground by severe frost. Leaving the village at its



northern end, the first evidence of animal life was encountered. Would an artist describe it as "still life?" A row of farmer's carts, twenty in number, were drawn up near the railway station. They counted up to twenty, otherwise they might have been taken for fifty. A dozen or a score of vehicles seen together in a country road startle the beholder by their unwonted number. Such seemed to be the opinion of the would-be classic scholar who wrote:—

IS AB ILLE HERES AGO,  
FORTIBUS ES IN ARO!  
O NOBILE! THEMIS TRUX,  
SE VATICINUM PES AN DUX.

The farmers' spring carts had brought their freight of milk to send by the early Sunday train to Manchester.

Having reached the Macclesfield turnpike and followed it for a short distance the road to the left was taken, and Bollington Cross soon passed. The lofty and severe archway which admits the road under the canal resembles some ancient Roman structure by its noble proportions and solidity, but the mind is promptly brought back to modern Christian times when the commodious stone building designed to accommodate the Sunday school is passed on the right. Descending the hill a good view of the roofs of the houses which compose the village was obtained, and it was amusing to observe with how much accord the inhabitants of Bollington were engaged at one time upon one and the same occupation—viz, preparing their breakfast, as the smoke curling from the several chimneys bore witness.

Where shall we find a greater contrast than between the life and activity of Bollington and the quiet and sylvan seclusion of Shrigley—only a short mile distant. There, surrounded by its circlet of lime trees, stands the ancient church, the tower of which contains the only bells now left in the district which called the faithful to prayer before mass ceased to be said in the parish churches of the land. Eight o'clock was striking as we passed the church. Doubtless the sound came from the ancient bell which bears this inscription:—

All you that heare my mournfull sounde  
Repent before you lye in ground.

The founder of the church who lived throughout the York dynasty and died in the reign of Henry VII. showed commendable anxiety that the priest of his church should not be tempted away from the

duties of his sacred calling. "And also I will that ye said priest keepe noe Horse, ne Hawke, re Hound, ne nothing that should destroy or let him from the service of God, for an hee will not ten: his booke, ne writing, ne teaching of children, ne his beades, nor other vertuous occupations, I will that hee be not there." Another provision of the right worthy founder might be commended to the consideration of convocation and of all those who are interested in Church reform, "Also I will ye said Robt, ne his heirs, depute, ne assigne one priest to ye said Chapple, that is sib or of alliance within the degrees of marriage to any knight or esquire within the said county of Chester, lest that if hee made a fault to bee put out, they might not put him out withouten maugre of his friends, for I had rather that there was no Priest there than to maintain an enemy of God." Not content with the secrecy of the confessional, the founder set his face very effectually against tattling. "If any Priest tells tales of his neighbours he shall lose his place." Books were not common in those days, but good use must be made of the few which the Church possessed. "And I will that if the said Robt or his heirs desire to borrow any booke that is longing to the chapple, either for himself or any other Gentleman, either for to read or to take a copy thereof, that he have such Booke as he desireth for the space of thirteen weeks, soe that hee leave sufficient pledge to keepe them safe and bring them back againe att the day assigned, soe that hee have not the Mass Booke." A fraternity was established with the object that its members should be prayed for by the priest. The fee was 6s 8d, but none were to be excluded because of their poverty, for "if hee bee not in power to paye soe much att onys that iff hee will paye every year 2d or 4d hee o' shee be pray'd as aforesaid. Also I will that if there bee a poore man or poore woman that bee known to have noe goods whereof to pay the foresaid sum, I will that they bee Brother and Sister as is aforesaid as well as any other."

If any reader of this narrative should not have made the acquaintance of the hamlet and valley of Shrigley, let such be assured that it is the sweetest spot in all our pleasant county. When separated by thousands of miles from dear old England, and suffering from a mild attack of home sickness, the writer has often contrasted the torrid heats and unfamiliar surroundings with the peaceful and lovely valley of Shrigley. The fair spring flowers of England are dearer than any which blow, and if you can find a spot on earth more lovely than the woods of Shrigley Park, when in May they have

spread one living breathing carpet of bluebells, pray make the fact known for the benefit of your species. The trees in their early leafage are almost as varied in tint as in autumn, and they offer an attraction unequalled in the later months of the year, for when the eye is feasting on their beauties the spirit is buoyant with hope, for the summer will soon follow; moreover, the beauty and charm of life of all plants which gladden the joyous and welcome spring are heightened by contrast with the darkness and torpidity of the recently experienced winter.

And oh, if there be an elysium on earth,  
It is this! It is this!

How green in spring-time are the few fields which fill the valley, and how the brook laughs and sparkles as it dances through them! Pure and sportive it babbles along, rushing here, loitering there, just like a little child. Soon, however, the cares, the duties (shall we add the pollutions) of life must be encountered. Printworks and cotton mills must be helped in their useful work before the brook, having increased in magnitude, and having acquired the name of the river Dean, joins the Bollin at Twinneys Bridge.

How coisly the white house in which the open-hearted George Lambert dwelt for so many years shelters itself under the high bank which screens it from the westerly gales! It receives all the sunshine from the time when the sun rises over Berastow Moor until it begins to descend behind the Nabb.

After passing Pott Mill the road up the valley trends to the right and the gradient increases. When we left the narrow valley and came out upon Bakestone Dale, accumulations of snow were first met with. The friendly shelter of the valley and the cover of plantations and copses were left behind, and nothing impeded the full force of the bitter nor'-easter. In some places a way had been cut through the deep and frozen drifts which were still as pure and clean as if the snow had but just fallen. During the weeks it had lain there the sun at times succeeded in thawing its surface, but so surely as the short days came to their close King Frost regained his sway, and congealed the melted surface into a transparent glaze with tiny icicles fringing the overhanging edge, and decorated with crystalline devices innumerable. The sun had risen over Broad Moss, and though its rays shone cold and feeble it sufficed to convert the frost-work into a fairy-land of sparkling gems—

His slanting ray

Slides ineffectual down the snowy vale,  
and seems to radiate no more heat than does the moon. The ground was coated with a sprinkling of snow, which congealed treacherous ice, in consequence of which several miles had to be traversed carefully on foot. Spencer T. Hall, always a charming writer, asserts that he has noticed in country rambles that the houses were generally congruous to their surroundings. This sentiment is, at any rate, true of Dale House. Its massive masonry, small windows, and flanking walls, make it a fortress designed to withstand the assaults of "rude Boreas" in that dreary solitude. A little further—at Brink, a name sufficiently appropriate—the summit of the *hause* was attained. The aneroid showed that we stood one thousand feet higher than Wilmslow Church. The wide and almost bewildering view of hills and valleys suddenly revealed, was an ample reward for the stiff climb, the bitter wind, and the intense cold. A mile to our right rose the crest of Spond's Hill, 1357ft. above sea level. That is the mass which rises so boldly behind Lyme Park when approached from Disley. Before us lay the high and broad valley in which bare Kettleashulme lay exposed, with Blackhill Gate and Windgather Rock on the opposite side, and Pym Chair more to the right. The moors and hills looked dark and morose as the keen wind swept over them. Their surfaces were, so to say, chalked with lines in every direction, where the snow had accumulated in drifts near stone walls, or lay elsewhere in wreaths and patches very white in contrast with the grey sky above them.

How the heart swells and the chest expands, as a wide stretch of moorland or mountain scenery is opened out before you! Who that is devoted to mountaineering does not experience a lightness and elasticity of spirit as little by little he makes good his progress up a steep hill-side? And there is also something of the contrary feeling when he must descend into the denser air and the more tame features of the plain. Such feelings were not unknown to Hankinson, whose words were recalled as range beyond range of the Cheshire and Derbyshire hills stood before us:—

And I felt as I stood on the wild hill's slope,  
How the tempest had stirred my spirit up;  
And I lifted my own weak voice on high,  
Mid the general roar of the earth and sky,  
And I sang to the storm as it drifted by.

But 'tis all in vain to a stranger's ear,

To speak of the things we see and hear;  
 And would you know what it is to be,  
 As airy, as happy, as bright and free,  
 As the zephyr that plays on the sunny lea,  
 Would you hear what I hear, would you see what I  
 see,  
 You must come to the mountains and dwell with me.

The path sloped sharply downward till it joined the road between Macclesfield and Sheffield, at Charles Head. The signification of the name is not apparent, but certainly, Charles must have lost his head, when he voluntarily selected this place for a habitation. [Since writing the foregoing sentence, Mr Samuel Thorp's states that the name is locally CHURL'S YED, and the ordnance surveyors have modernised the words, in this as in many other cases, darkening counsel by words without knowledge; for example, HAWKER'S GREEN, Fulshaw, instead of ALCOCK GREEN where EDWARD ALCOCK dwelt more than two centuries ago. CHURL is CEORL, a freeman of the lowest rank; the Danish and Swedish word is KARL. CARL'S WARK on Hathersage Moor is a fortified position, the work of the Ceorls. The constellation of the Great Bear is called CHARLES Wain; this is only a modern rendering of CHURL'S WAIN or CEORL'S WAIN. Churl's Yed is an evidence of the antiquity, not of the modern house on the road side, but of the building having the same name half a mile distant on the eastern slope of Broad Moss. The neighbouring places, Tod's Cliff and Dunge also attest their antiquity by their names.] Still descending, the road describes a complete horseshoe in order to pass a deep cleft in the hillside, and a further descent must be made before the bridge crossing the stream which flows down the valley, is reached. A steady ascent of three quarters of a mile leads to the scattered village of Kettlethulme, the focus of tracks and paths from places presumably still more bleak. Hedgerows could not live at this elevation, and the stone walls which serve as fences must be well built to oppose the storms which beat against them. Don't expect to find gardens at Kettlethulme. A couple of gooseberry bushes cowered beneath a wall to show that in summer they could boast of vitality, if not of fruitfulness. The cherry, that most hardy of fruit trees, here and there is trained against the southern gable of some house. The name of the village and township indicates an Icelandic origin, perhaps the locality would be a congenial one for an immigrant from the inhospitable Arctic Ocean. KOTL signifies a cleft or coombe, and KETTLE is one of the most common surnames in Iceland. The

road crosses a spur of the eastern range of hills, and then descends to Whaley Bridge. Skirting, though at a higher level, the sheet of water, now a sheet of ice, which being nearly a mile in length, assumes the dimensions of a lake, it commands a pleasing prospect. Trees have become comparatively abundant, and the increasing numbers of houses seem more at their ease, and do not appear so crouching and huddled as if to resist "the stormy winds that blow." Two or three rosy-cheeked children were hurrying along to the Sunday School, and if *worsted comforters*, could comfort them, they were almost as well provided as the patriarch Job himself.

Whaley Hall occupies a commanding position dominating the lake, and more than once the threatening clouds well nigh persuaded the benumbed pilgrims to turn aside from their purpose and indulge in the generous hospitality to be certainly found in the hall. But the call of duty prevailed, although the elements made a brave fight against the wayfarers. A dark grey mist first dimmed the outline of the mountains in front, and then totally obscured them. In a few minutes this appearance was accounted for, as a storm of finely divided snow drove upon us. It was as dry as dust and as pitiless and keen as a sand storm. Its course was horizontal, and the face was stung by the cutting particles dashed against it. This was just bearable, but when the hard granules impelled by the force of a tempest, struck the eyeballs, capitulation seemed almost inevitable. Stooping till the domes of our hats were presented to the blast, and with our eyes almost closed we forged slowly ahead and crossed the Goyt into the county of Derby. The ice-dust storm, like most other troubles pitiless but brief, at length passed us by.

The four miles which separate Whaley from Chapel-en-le-Frith, passing on the way the extensive lake which supplies the canal, were soon traversed. The massive stone building so well seen from the Midland Railway came into view. It proved to be the Union Workhouse, and offers one other illustration that "Union is strength!" The small town, picturesque from its irregularity and its variety of level, abounds in public houses over which the tall tower of the church rises.

The church is 785 feet above the sea. Having seen that our steed was carefully tended and well fed by the brisk ostler at the King's Arms, we joined the stream of persons flocking towards the church. Passing through the churchyard, however, our course lay beside the river in the direction of

Chinley Chapel, but before the beautiful railway viaduct was quite reached it was needful to follow a tributary stream to the right until a small and scattered hamlet named Wash was reached. The water doubtless furnished the name. The Welsh word *WYSG* signifies water, as in the names *WASH-BURN* and *GWASH*, as well as the broad estuary *THE WASH*, between Lincoln and Norfolk. The few houses in this little Derbyshire village are perched about on every coign of vantage and embowered in well grown trees they offer many a subject for the pencil of the artist, and the camera of the photographer. Having missed the most direct way we crossed the clear stream only to recross it, and passing a neat close carriage whose owner had preceded us to our destination, we ascended several flights of steps and approached the most considerable and the newest house in the hamlet. Adjoining this house was an older building, which on account of the steep acclivity was entered on one side on the floor level, and on the contrary side the entrance from the path led direct into the upper room. Into this upper room we quietly entered and found ourselves within a spacious but somewhat low apartment open to the ridge, but neatly plastered, and the substantial framing beams were visible. A glorious fire filled the grate in one end of the room, and on forms on each side, sat, immovable as statues, some fifteen or twenty persons of various ages. The further end of the room was amply supplied with forms destined to be used when more accommodation was required. The persons might have been deaf as well as dumb, for the intrusion of a couple of strangers was totally unheeded. This was a small meeting of the Friends, and is composed of a number of simple-minded people, mostly in humble life, who live among the hills. The meeting was collected by the late Samuel Bradburn, who made the meeting house at his sole expense. As some schooner after tossing violently on the waves outside a harbour finds itself on rounding the end of the pier, all at once in smooth water and sheltered from the blustering wind, so did the pilgrims find a profound quiet as they noiselessly took their places among the little company of worshippers. We read that in Egypt there was once a darkness that might be felt. In the plain and scrupulously clean meeting-house there certainly was a silence which was felt—a silence more profound it seemed, than if the room had been empty. An occasional cinder dropping on the fireirons was all the sound which met the ear. Ere long the voice of prayer was heard and the company reverently stood like the worshippers in the

early Christian church. More than one sermon, short perhaps of eloquence, but not wanting in directness, was preached, it was hoped under some measure of that Divine Spirit, which whether in the cathedral or the conventicle must accompany all rightly offered utterances. The mind of the pilgrims was naturally turned to another "upper room" wherein the incidents were said to have been prefigured by one who wrote "On my servants and on my hand-maidens will I pour in those days, of my Spirit, and they shall prophecy" (or preach.) On the occasion of our visit both men and women brought their share of offerings.

When noon approached the meeting ended and kindly greetings were exchanged. Hospitality was not only offered, but pressed; and disappointment expressed when the pilgrims explained that it was needful that they should return immediately. The town was regained in half an hour, and the service at the church had just ended. The path through the churchyard was accessible by passing a swing gate which admits only one person at a time to zigzag his way through. Here the pilgrims paused to allow three bright girls, the pictures of health, accompanied by their squires (who failed hopelessly in the endeavour to look like their brothers), to pass. Swathing themselves in their extra wraps, the pilgrims seated themselves behind their good steed which from the rest, the grooming and the ample feed, improvised a minuets before the return journey could be commenced.

The return journey from the hills to the plain was simply a doubling upon our own tracks past Horridge End and Kettleshulme, as far as Churl's Yed. Instead, however, of taking the turn to the right, the Macclesfield road was followed along the western side of Broad Moss to Patch, where the Roman road was intersected. Leaving Great Low (1159ft.) to the right, the road crept downwards from the bleak hills to the more sheltered but still elevated village of Rainow, where our steed was stabled by a hospitable farmer, and left to enjoy a second dinner, whilst the pilgrims made the best of their way into the enclosed valley which lies between Rainow Low and Northen Nancy. The word Low is frequently met with in Cheshire. It is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *HLAW*—a hill or mound. A few minutes' walk brought us to a thoroughly substantial and roomy house, which in the ordnance map is designated by the strange name of Hough Hole. After passing the house the object of our search was not difficult to find. We had merely to follow the sound of singing which was

sweetly borne upon the still and frosty air. The necessity to pick our way with caution over the frozen roads had resulted in the loss of half an hour, and brought us to our destination at 2-30 instead of two o'clock. Finding a way through the well-kept garden, we approached a spiral staircase, which leads to the small chapel perched against, or on the end of, one of the commodious outbuildings. The square room dominates the structure which may easily be mistaken for a simple country church. The congregation so nearly filled the apartment that the addition of a couple of worshippers caused a slight commotion. A good fire diffused a genial warmth, and the place was rendered still more comfortable by the windows at both ends of the room being doubly glazed. No wonder the sacred music had sounded so sweetly, for the congregation, who were both able and willing to sing, were accompanied by a well-played harmonium. On a dais the venerable James Mellor was seated—"an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile." His abundant hair, which has not yet become blanched by the snows of age, together with his appearance and bearing, might lead to the opinion that he had passed the age of three score and ten, but could not yet count his four score years. He is, however, in his ninetieth year; his eye is not dim, and his natural force is not abated. The company were habited in black, and the sermon which fell from the lips of the aged pastor indicated that one of their number had very recently ceased to take part in their hymns, and had gone to join the celestial choir. The old man opened the large book and read, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, for they rest from their labours." It was a strange and touching experience to listen to "that old man eloquent" discoursing on the flight of time; to listen to him who had led so active and useful a life blessed with a vigour of mind and body truly phenomenal, impressing on his audience the brevity of his life. The memory of his childhood was perfectly clear, and as he recalled to mind the friends, the playmates, and the relatives of his boyhood, he observed that not one single individual was left on earth. All had been called away! Yet this complete change of the actors on the scene had taken place within ninety years! Yet houses that were grey and old in his youth looked scarcely older now; trees which had flushed into leaf every spring long before his birth, will in a few weeks' time again become fresh and beautiful, but the whole company of players on the world's stage have well nigh passed away.

To a careless observer it might seem that to one who had passed through an unusually prolonged life there would appear something approaching "fixity of tenure" as compared with the rest of us. Yet this is scarcely the case. When travelling on the railway or in a steamer we judge of the rate of our own motion by the speed with which objects about us appear to move; and to a man so far advanced in years as to have witnessed the removal of the entire population the world appears in very truth "no continuing city." Each returning summer the air is filled with the odour of the honeysuckle and the wallflower, whilst the lark in the blue sky and the thrush on the bough fill the air with music as sweet as first filled the groves of Paradise; but Time never fails to record on man his unflagging flight. The constant change wrought on himself and his fellows whilst perennial freshness characterises the scene spread before his eyes recalls to remembrance the emblem of the Spanish monk to the painter Wilkie who had visited the Escorial to examine a painting of the Last Supper on the wall of its refectory. Lord Houghton (himself a shadow now passed away) places these words in the mouth of the monk:—

• • • while in mine heart are stored  
 Sad memories of my brethren dead and gone,  
 Familiar faces vacant round our board,  
 And still that silent supper lasting on.  
 While I review my youth—what I was then,  
 What I am now, and ye beloved ones all—  
 It seems as if *these* were the living men,  
 And *we* the coloured shadows on the wall.

The sermon betrayed a leaning to the teaching of Baron Swedenborg who died only about twenty-four years before our venerable friend was born. The celestial, spiritual, and natural senses of the scriptural quotations he adduced, were enforced, and the extraordinary science of correspondencies or the signification in the spiritual world of things existing in the natural world was occasionally touched upon. An appropriate hymn concluded a solemn and memorable occasion. James Mellor, although a diligent reader of the voluminous writings of him who believed he had conversed with angels face to face, would not admit that he was a Swedenborgian, nor, indeed, a member of any sect or visible church. His father was one of the earliest followers of John Wesley, and the sermon to which we had listened contained references to remarks made by some of the first able coadjutors of that eminent and pious reformer. The father of James Mellor built at his sole expense the first Wesleyan chapel in the fou

contiguous townships, of which Rainow was one, one hundred and five years ago. This primitive building is far away on the hills, and to it the few Methodists who dwelt in the district at that distant day regularly flocked.

It has been said that the character of a man can be inferred from an examination of the books which form his library. The character, the opinions, the virtues, may we not add the harmless eccentricities, of James Mellor present to the careful observer undoubted "correspondencies" in the many objects of interest to be found in and around Hough Hole. A purling brook which collects the water from the side of Great Low is impounded in a "lodge" in the garden. This furnishes the requisite head of water for a turbine to supply power for half a dozen useful purposes. The love of utility is a quality which is very prominent in the character of James Mellor, and the kindred qualities of order and system are equally developed. The garden is laid out to the best advantage and many of the walks are neatly laid with narrow flagstones. If the visitor expects to find all the various artistic effects, the devices and deceptions so dear to Shenstone he, will certainly be disappointed. The venerable man has been a thoughtful reader of the writings of sages and moralists, and wishful to reproduce and multiply, without the labour of transcribing, choice *morceaux* of their wisdom he has established a printing office, and fitted it with cases of type and a small press. David and Dante, Seneca and Solomon, Plato and Paul, have all been laid under contribution. Here is an extract from *De Imitatione Christi*, and there a passage from the writings of Anthony Benezet. Kung-foo-tze and Epictetus are locked in the same chase. In one part of the garden or another, may be found some hermit's cell where the aged philosopher may retire alone, or commune with some chosen friend. An ancient anchorite would select for his place of retirement a damp cave, which the modern sanitary inspector would unhesitatingly condemn as unfit for a human habitation, even a temporary residence in it would certainly induce rheumatism. Our modern sage knows better, and his dry cells, like railway signal boxes, are well glazed, and so placed as to receive every gleam of sunlight. In these may be found sympathetic magnetic needles with various other scientific toys, from which many a lesson is deduced. One might almost be led to believe that Mr Mellor had already sown his garden seeds, and marked their position by gigantic and very neat labels four feet in height. Closer inspection of these

posts ranged at regular distances shows that they are inscribed with the names of the several tribes of the Israelites, and on removing a wooden cover from any of them a board is revealed which contains some lesson neatly printed and carefully varnished, the full import of which will be more evident to the student of Swedenborg than to the casual visitor. In one place a horizontal table contains a peg from which a meridian line is traced, so that the annual motion of the sun can be followed from day to day. A bridge crossing the stream, which figures by similitude as the Jordan, is scarcely so secure as the other contrivances; probably some hidden meaning is concealed in its very frailty. It suggests the bridge described by the author of "Agathos." "Uncle Tom's Cabin" cannot be mistaken, for it displays a label duly inscribed. This shady retreat will be cool and comfortable during the dog days. A stone tablet about two yards in length occupies the back of the small apartment; it is neatly and deeply cut with a voluminous inscription, and is an evidence of the continued dexterity of the craftsman in his ninetieth year, whilst it offers an example of the enigmatical and mystical form in which the saint of Rainow delights to convey his lessons. In one part of the garden a horizontal wheel made to revolve, displaying (in Japanese fashion) various inscribed facets, commemorates the abolition of slavery in the United States, and the judicial murder of the martyr for the cause of the slave, John Brown. In another place a waterwheel is arranged to ring a bell at fixed intervals, in order to frighten the birds from the peas and other tempting crops. The affair is not always in order, for it became of little use when the birds discovered that they ran no risk from one who is so tender-hearted, and has such regard for the life of his dumb neighbours, that he subsists solely on vegetable food.

Mr Mellor has not been mated in this world, but he is profoundly convinced that a worthy spouse awaits him in the promised land. He is a devoted admirer of good women, and the sayings and writings of some of the best of their sex are displayed in bold letterpress in the garden.

Mrs Thrale wrote:—

The tree of deepest root is found  
Least willing still to quit the ground;  
'Twas therefore said by ancient sages  
That love of life increased with years,

But if this be the general rule, the example of Mr Mellor offers a marked exception. His arrangements

have long been completed, and he cheerfully awaits his final summons. His loins are girded about, and his light is burning. If warned that he would be called away before the sun should set, his pulse would scarcely be accelerated by a single beat. He even chooses to meet death, as it were, half way. His monument is erected; his epitaph, composed by himself, is cut on the handsome tomb by his own hands, and only awaits the date to be filled in by the chisel, held in the hands of another. His funeral sermon, too, is written. He even proposed to construct his own coffin, but his devoted niece, with equal love and spirit, pointed out the fruitlessness of such labour, as the article of furniture would assuredly serve to reduce the consumption of coals for the kitchen fire so soon as it should be completed. The tomb stands in the garden near to others erected in memory of other members of the family, and in the vaults beneath their remains have been laid. The mortal part of one beloved relative, however, lies on the western shore of the Atlantic, but a monument in her honour is not wanting at Rainow. The cemetery is appropriately placed near to the chapel, and the flight of time is suggested by a sundial surmounting a stone pillar, on the abacus of which is engraved the enigmatical injunction, "Jemmy, Jemmy, mind thy own peace!" This has reference to advice given to Mr Mellor in his boyhood by some honoured preacher. Every part of the garden bears the name of some place mentioned in the Bible, and seats invite you in summer to rest and meditate, the colours in which they are painted having some esoteric signification.

As Mr Mellor generously permits visitors to walk through his remarkable garden, there can be no breach of confidence in giving the foregoing description of it. Those who enjoy the friendship of Mr Mellor and his genial family (the children of his brother, the late Mr William Mellor, of Manchester, well known among scientific persons, and who was elected a member of the Literary and Philosophical Society so long ago as 1837) will admit that an appropriate metaphorical name for the commodious house would be "The Land of Goshen." To the old homestead considerable additions have been made, new cloth added to the old garment, but if it came to let to a tenant the rent would not have been made worse. Among the objects of interest to be found therein, indicating the taste of the owner, a good refracting telescope and a pair of globes are conspicuous; the presence of the radio-meter proves that the venerable student does not

lag far behind the times. The workshop is a pattern of order. All the numerous tools are ranged on racks in their appointed places. The turbine whirls the centrifugal fan which blows the smith's fire; it turns the range of grindstones of varying degrees of coarseness, and as willingly lends itself to take a share in the discharge of purely domestic duties, driving the washing-machine, the mangle, and the churn. Near at hand is the bedchamber of Mr Mellor, and no insignificant share of the roomy apartment is occupied by a powerful mechanical organ, which is connected by appropriate shafts and bands with the turbine. If the slumbers of its owner become interrupted, he has only to grasp a handle placed conveniently at the side of his bed, the apparatus is brought into operation, and "Rock of Ages," the "Old Hundredth," or some other tune is steadily and loudly rolled forth. Should Mr Mellor become soothed to sleep by the music, there seems to be no reason why the harmony should not be maintained till morning, and so we will hope that the various members of his household will be lulled by the all-penetrating melody. On the opposite side of the bed a smaller organ is fixed, and upon waking (even without leaving his bed) Mr Mellor can rouse his household by playing the verse of a morning hymn—

What secret hand at morning light  
By stealth unseals mine eye,  
Draws back the curtain of the night,  
And opens earth and sky!

and soon from one of the distant chambers he will hear sung the thankful response—

'Tis Thine—my daily bread that brings,  
Like manna scattered round,  
And clothes me, as the lily springs,  
In beauty from the ground.

Visitors even from distant places come to see this modern Nathanael. The late Bishop of Manchester expressed a wish to make the acquaintance of James Mellor, and received in reply a cordial invitation. The arrangements were made, but death broke the engagement, and the old man was debarred the pleasure of welcoming the prelate whom he loved and honoured.

Mr Mellor is a little bent with age otherwise his appearance would mislead the observer to the extent of fifteen years. His abundant hair and rapid movements suggest an age still younger. A calm, reflective, and benevolent face lighted up with a touch of mingled wisdom and cuteness, which the Lancashire folk might describe as *fause*, presents a true index to the character of the man. Never as

willing to give his friends the benefit of his reading and reflections he does not fail to recognise the virtues of a good listener, and when he displays his mental treasures before his auditors he expects that they shall be patiently endured. His writing is fair and very legible, and his right hand has not forgot her cunning. Where can his equal be found; a man entering on his tenth decade, who can compose a sermon and then preach it, or if you will take a composing stick in hand and set it up in type and then print it? A carpenter, blacksmith, turner, stone cutter, and gardener; moreover an honest workman, not a tinkerer.

Mr Mellor is never wearied in contemplating the evidence of creative love and wisdom as revealed in the world around him. It is his fixed belief that each animal and plant has its especial use, and he loves to ponder what the use may be. When communicating his views, his illustrations are always forcible, frequently they are original and quaint. Sometimes, it must be admitted, they resemble the phrases so common in the controversial writings of a past age, and lack the refinement with which Mr Mellor would have clothed them had his nativity occurred three quarters of a century later. Our loved friend believes that as the veil which conceals the mysteries which lie beyond, is thinning, he is almost enabled to pierce its folds. He feels that what awaits him is very substance, and regards the world as little more than its shadow.

Poor Richard or some other modern Spartan insists "Early to bed and early to rise, will make a man healthy, wealthy and wise." Mr Mellor seems to have attained the ends, and he has certainly not overlooked the means. It must be a very early bird, or early worm, to be stirring before the candle is lighted in his chamber. Reluctant as they were to leave the scene of so much geniality and goodness the pilgrims were compelled at length to depart from this the second shrine visited in the day's pilgrimage. Mr Mellor, after bidding kind farewells, added "I must rise a little earlier than usual to-morrow. My hour is five o'clock, but on washing days I like to light the fire for the maids, so I must be stirring by four o'clock."

Blessings on thee, tried and venerated friend! Is there on the earth's surface one other man of thy years who does likewise?

Finally the pilgrims seated themselves behind their good nag, and rapidly passed church, chapel and mission-room from which the sweet sounds of congregational singing surged forth as they

descended into the valley of the Bellin. Macclesfield was soon traversed, Alderley Edge ascended, and the congregation were not dismissed from Chorley church when it was passed. The pilgrims reached their homes in peace and safety. They examined if the whip were safe as it had not been removed from its socket during the day. The brave little steed retired to the stable to enjoy a good time, for the Sunday had been sandwiched between two days of equine rest.

Wilmslow.

ALFRED FRYER.

#### A LOVE STORY AS TOLD BY HARRIETT STOCKDALE.

Harriett Stockdale, in her beautiful volume of "Poems and Sonnets," has supplied a rich store of material for a number of love stories. I remember spending an evening with a friend who had taken the pleasurable trouble of gathering out of this little volume the story of a love which had come under his own observation. He related to me the tale as it was known to himself, its hopes and its fears, its ebbs and flows, and being a good conversationalist he made it very interesting to me. I cannot pretend to give it in his language, but the incidents of it should be saved. The young couple connected with it had known each other for some years, but the gentleman was "shy," and although he had nursed his hot love in his heart for many weary months he lacked the courage to tell his sweetheart how much he loved her. She was a tender and maidenly young thing, and of course failed to make her lover understand what her own feelings to him were; but one day he was visited with a sore trouble, and in her desire to comfort him she hastened to his side, and poured into his ear the expression of her tender pity, and of her longing desire to render him all the solace she could do in his affliction.

No words of love passed their lips on this memorable occasion; but "shy" as our friend was he made bare the secret of his love's heart, and for the first time in his life he kissed her passionately upon her lips. As might be expected, she was startled into a new life she blushed and trembled, and soon afterwards took her departure filled with strange thoughts of the great love she had thus witnessed, and of her own unworthiness to enjoy it as she wished to do; but no sooner was she safely housed within the sanctity of her own room than she betook herself to her "Sonnets," and then with a trembling hand she marked the following beautiful verse in the volume in question:—

He loves me! let me linger on the music of each word.  
He loves me! let me listen till my inmost soul be stirred.  
Bend down thy face, and whisper it unto my heart once more,

It is such perfect music, I would hear it o'er and o'er.

The authoress has fittingly called that "Rest;" and we can well imagine how this sweet child must have



dwelt upon the story thus told, as supremely restful to her anxious heart; for although her lover had said nothing to her in words expressive of his affection for her, the kiss he had given her upon her lips had satisfied all her longing desires, and the words we have quoted above told the rest of the tale to her which this "shy" gentleman should have conveyed to her ears in his less poetic language had he had but the courage of his convictions.

Love is not so blind as we are apt to think. It possesses means of its own to search our inner hearts, and a single kiss will often show to the expectant lover in a far more effective way the secrets of a man's heart than a whole volume of eloquent declamations can do. But alongside of all this there lingers a sense of fear; the fear that you are not good enough to satisfy the object of your love, and so it was in this instance, and once again this maidenly young person betakes herself to her "Sonnets" to find expressions for her own fearful thoughts:—

I knew I was not fit to mate  
With one like you, so good and great;  
But love brings all things round;  
For I could learn, and you could teach,  
So my life's low and narrow reach  
Took wider view and bound.

The "shy" lover who could have remained dead to the claims of the owner of such thoughts as these did not deserve to win the fair, but he was not long in finding out for himself how welcome he was to the dear one who had so readily pierced the secret of his heart, and ere many days had passed this happy pair were affianced to each other. She had wealth, he was poor; but his "wealth of love" was a fortune in itself, and when he found courage to tell his lady-love of his long attachment to her she breaks out thus:—

My darling! have I truly brought  
The sunshine and the peace you sought,  
When our two lives were blent?  
Have I restored your springs of old?  
Ah! take my bonny bits of gold!  
I know you are content.

This writer has thus entered into the very holiest of our feelings; she touches in this way the most sacred of our thoughts; there is no pandering to passion here, no stooping to that which is base and worldly; but she depicts in simple language just the very thoughts of a pure and high-minded maiden who is ready to sacrifice her life and her wealth upon the altar of her true love. I would fain hope that the instances where this is done are not few and far between, for so much of our happiness is wound up in the reality of our love for each other. This child lover my friend had been telling me of had been patiently waiting the open manifestation of her sweetheart's affection, but now she is assured of it she lifts up her heart to God and exclaims:—

I have grown patient, seeking not too choose  
Mine own blind lot, but take that God shall send,  
In which, if that I long for, I should lose,  
I know the loss will work some blessed end,  
Some better fate for mine and me than I  
Could ever compass underneath the sky.

What a charming picture have we there of the maiden who can thus trust herself to God's guidance! That is not the language of a person who sets up her own mistaken thoughts for the will of God, but of the humble, believing, contrite, Christian woman, who can cast all her cares upon Him with the most perfect confidence that He careth for His children. These are the Christian maidens who leave their mark upon the page of our history, and who in their own persons glorify the God in whom they have so trustfully believed. Such love is a treasure worth seeking for, and we can understand how naturally the authoress puts into the lips of her heroine such words as these:

If I might die upon his arm, die looking on his face,  
And know that he would ever sigh to mark my vacant place;  
If he would kiss my dying lips and hold my wasted hand,  
It would cheer my awful journey to the dark and unknown land.

This tale, thus told, is beautiful in all its parts, but told as my friend told it to me it was matchless in its simplicity, pathos, and power. He filled up the story as he went along, and at times moved me to tears, for he had experienced in his own person some of the sweetest pleasures of a holy and a sanctified love, and had suffered also under the sad infliction of a worldly love, where passion ruled the heart and the sacred bonds of duty counted for but little. The authoress I have mentioned probably drew upon her own imagination for much of her love story, but my friend had felt all he said to me, and he said it so well that it was impossible not to realise the difference between a real and a genuine love and the mere conventional loves which call forth the sickening stories of the courts of law, which now, alas, have become so common among us.

"Whatever may befall thee, whatever may betide, I shall be true for ever," said one of the court ladies, not many years since, to the good man who afterwards wedded her; but the words she used to him had no real meaning in them, her "for ever" simply meant *for the time*; she made a convenience of the man she had plighted her troth to, and when it suited her purpose to cast him off and to give what she called her "heart" to another man, her solemn promises counted for nothing with her, and thus she did dishonour to her sex, brought undeserved shame upon an honourable man, and stood before the world an abandoned woman, whose very name to this hour is held in reproach by all who read the shameful story rehearsed about her in our law courts.

We cannot therefore sufficiently thank the authoress

of the little volume I have mentioned for the picture she has presented to us of a good woman's life. There is something so Godlike about it, something so holy, so pure, so commendable, that I have ventured thus to call your readers' attention to it, and I sincerely hope

that in doing so I shall render some service to humanity by presenting to your readers a sketch of that love which should recommend itself to every professed Christian in this old England of ours.

LACROSS.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT SIXTY YEARS AGO.

#### IV.

The mill now owned by the Messrs Walthew, on the Lancashire side of the Mersey, in Brinkaway, was, in my earliest recollection, worked with great regularity by Mr Heawood. I know nothing of this gentleman save that he was comely in appearance. It was in the year 1827 when I first became acquainted with Mr Heawood. At this time his father was the mine host of the Bull's Head Inn, in the Market-place, Stockport, and I often saw Joseph and his younger brother playing amongst the other youths in the market. I afterwards lost sight of the family for many years. The next I heard of Mr Heawood he had become a master doubler, and was working the mill in Heaton-lane, behind the George Hotel. Things seemed to prosper with him marvellously, for in a short time he was working two mills, and he went to reside in that grand mansion—Reddish House. Mr Heawood afterwards erected the colossal mill on the banks of the canal in Reddish. He had only one son, and he spared no expense in giving him a good education. Notwithstanding all the money spent upon him, this son never settled down to business habits; his fault lay in spending rather than earning money. Mr Heawood was a worshipper at the Wycliffe Chapel, Wellington-road North, and an office bearer in that sanctuary. He did not seem to enjoy robust health at any time, and he succumbed to his affliction shortly after he had erected his large mill in Reddish, and at the height of his popularity. He is interred in the Stockport Borough Cemetery. The son did not long survive the father. He went to reside in a cottage in Adswood-lane, where he died about a dozen years ago.

A sad accident occurred at this Brinkaway mill in the year 1851, which caused the death of a num-

ber of people. The modern portion of the old mill is fire-proof, and during some alterations which were taking place a portion of the floor fell in. The machinery and the workpeople fell also, and a number of the latter were killed.

The Hope Hill Mill, which I alluded to in one of my early papers, was flourishing in the time of Mr Hardy's mayoralty. At that time Mr Charles Axon (formerly partner with Mr W. H. Smith, at the Mersey Mills, under the firm of Smith and Axon) was at the height of his popularity. He had built and got in working order his large mill in Heaton-lane. This mill (which at this time was considered the acme of perfection for cotton manufacturing) stood on the now vacant land adjoining the bridge leading from Heaton-lane to King-street West. Mr Charles Axon was rather below the middle standard in stature. He was extremely clean in his person, dress, and habits. He was a good mechanic, a hard worker, and understood well all the branches of the cotton industry. Mr Axon never paid high wages to a manager. He, by the help of one or two subordinates, preferred to manage his mill himself. It was no uncommon occurrence, when he was going his rounds through the mill, for him to find some of his overlookers puzzled and at their wits end, trying to rectify some machine when out of order. Mr Axon would on these occasions pass by apparently without noticing the overlooker in his dilemma, and would shortly after pay this overlooker another visit, and probably find him still in a perplexed state. Mr Axon would then doff off his coat, and tell the overlooker to hand the screw keys to him. He would then commence to rectify the machine, and he very seldom failed in shortly doing so. It was customary for Mr Axon to attend the Manchester market two or three times a week. On these days the overlookers had much their own way, and spent much of their time in gossiping. Mr Axon knew of this failing in his men, and he tried many a dodge that he might catch them together. A number of men can watch one man better than one man can watch many. It was so in this case;

for on the day which Mr Axon had to attend the Manchester market, someone was deputed to watch his movements, and report when he had left the mill. The twisting-in room was always a loitering place for the overlookers of the weavers, and Mr Axon was cognizant of this.

The plan which Mr Axon frequently adopted to catch his overlookers loitering was this: On the day which he had to attend the Manchester market he would bustle about, and make it appear that he was in a hurry to catch the train. Knowing that his movements were being watched, he would hurry through the lodge and go up the brow opposite his mill, which was considered the nearest way to Heaton Norris Railway Station. The report was then circulated through the mill that "Old Charley" was gone. Mr Axon, instead of going to the station, as was supposed, would then go into the town and transact other business. After being away from the mill a sufficient time, as he thought, for the overlookers to have assembled together, he would return to the mill, avoiding all approaches where he could be seen through any of the windows, and go into the twisting-in room. Here, as he expected, he generally found his overlookers sat gossiping. He would then count the number of them he had caught idling, always multiplying them about four fold. Instead of saying five or six he generally ran them up to about twenty.

Mr Axon had one son (Joseph), a clever young man in some respects, who ought to have looked more after his father's interest; but instead of going through the mill and seeing that all was right there, he devoted much of his time in the mechanics' shop, planning and constructing miniature machines of various kinds. Mr Joseph Axon was one of the greatest contributors to the grand mechanics' exhibition held in the old theatre in the year 1840. In one department was a miniature lake, of his construction, in the centre of which was a beautifully contrived fountain. There was also a number of miniature boats and ships sailing on the water, all of his construction. Round the lake (which was circular) was a representation of little hills, valleys, and tunnels. He also constructed a railway line which ran round the edge of the water. On this a miniature railway engine and a number of carriages were placed. It was a beautiful sight to see the whole in motion. We saw the engine and carriages crossing a valley; they then entered a tunnel under one of the hills,

and emerged from the other side. They would then cross a bridge or go over a viaduct, and pass by a small town and railway station. This exhibit was a masterpiece of workmanship, and was a great attraction to the exhibition. There was also a model of the Thames Tunnel exhibited. This, also, was a grand piece of workmanship, and was built under the supervision of Mr Joseph Axon. Mr J. Axon took a great interest in the Heaton Norris Fire Brigade, and he was the treasurer and superintendent of that corps many years; my father at the time was the captain over the men attending to the Heaton Norris fire engine, which, at one time, was considered to be the best fire engine in Stockport. I once saw a model of this engine made of brass; it was very small, not covering more than the space of six square inches, and when worked it would draw up water and project it a considerable distance. This was a clever piece of workmanship, and was made by Mr Joseph Axon. Mr Charles Axon built the white house at Norris-bank, and resided there up to his death. This house afterwards was purchased by Mr John Kidd, who occupied it until his death. It is now the residence of Colonel McClure. Mr Axon's mill was worked with great regularity up to his death, over forty years. It was afterwards worked about ten years by Mr Richard Walsh, who became a bankrupt in the year 1856. Mr Walsh went to Australia, where he died a short time ago. This mill was afterwards worked by the firm of James Marshall and Sons. Another collapse took place, and the mill stood idle several years. One night a portion of this mill fell down, and the remainder was shortly afterwards pulled down to prevent it falling. Nothing now remains of this once popular mill but the site.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

#### CHESHIRE CANDIDATES AT THE GENERAL ELECTION, 1885.

The following is the conclusion of these biographies of candidates contesting Cheshire constituencies at the late election, together with those of candidates for other constituencies, who are connected with the county by birth, profession, or residence:—

LATHAM, GEORGE WILLIAM, Liberal candidate for the Crewe Division, is the eldest surviving son of Mr John Latham, of Bradwall Hall, Cheshire, by Elizabeth Anne, daughter of Sir Henry Dampier, formerly Judge of the King's Bench. He was born in 1827, and was educated at Brasenose College, Oxford.

He was called to the bar at the Inner Temple in 1852, and went the North Wales and Chester Circuit. Mr Latham is a magistrate of Cheshire and for the borough of Crewe. He married, in 1856, Elizabeth Sarah, daughter of the Rev. Henry Luttman Johnson, of Binderton House, Sussex. Mr Latham has unsuccessfully contested the old division of Mid-Cheshire three times. First on the retirement of Col. Cornwall Leigh, in 1863; secondly, at the general election of 1880; and thirdly in 1883 on the succession of the Hon. W. Egerton to the peerage, against the Hon. Alan Tatton Egerton. Successful.

LAWRENCE EDWIN, of King's Ride, Ascot, Liberal candidate for East Berks, is the youngest son of the late Mr William Lawrence, alderman of London, by his marriage with Jane, daughter of Mr James Clarke, of Wymeswold, Leicestershire. He was born in 1837, was educated at University School and College, London, and was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1867. In 1874 he married Edith Jane, younger daughter of the late J. B. Smith, M.P., for Stockport. He is in favour of the disestablishment of the Church in Wales, the formation of county boards with licensing control, and the amendment of the land laws. Unsuccessful.

LEADAM, ISAAC SAUNDERS, Liberal candidate for the Altrincham Division, Cheshire, is the third son of the late Mr T. R. Leadam, M.D., of York-place, Portland-square, by his marriage with Georgiana Harriet Saunders, daughter of the late Rev. Isaac Saunders, Rector of St. Ann's, Blackfriars. He was born in 1848, and educated at University College, Oxford, of which he was elected scholar in 1867. Mr Leadam obtained a first-class in classics at moderation in 1869, and a first-class in the Final Classical School in 1871, and was elected Fellow of Brasenose College in 1872. He married in 1875, Elizabeth, younger daughter of Mr John Egginton, of South Ella, East Yorkshire. Unsuccessful.

LEIGH, JOSEPH, Liberal candidate for Stockport, is the eldest son of Mr Thomas Leigh, cotton spinner, of Stockport, and was born in 1841. He was educated at Stockport Grammar School. Mr Leigh married, in 1868, Alice Ann, daughter of Mr Daniel Adamson. He is a magistrate for Cheshire and for the borough of Stockport, and a director of the Manchester Ship Canal Company. Unsuccessful.

LEGH, WILLIAM JOHN, Conservative candidate for the Hyde Division, is a son of the late Mr William Legh, and was born in 1828. He was educated at Rugby, and served for some time in the Army. In 1858 he married Emily Jane, daughter of the Rev. Charles N. Wodehouse. Mr Legh is a deputy-lieutenant of Chester and of the County Palatine of Lancaster. Represented South Lancashire from May, 1859, to July, 1865, and East Cheshire from 1868 to the close of the last Parliament. Unsuccessful.

MACDONA, J. CUMMING, Conservative candidate for the Chesterfield Division, Derbyshire, is the eldest son of Mr G. De Landre Macdonna, F.R.G.S., of West Kirby, Cheshire, by his marriage with Eliza Bowen, daughter of the late Mr J. Cumming, of Exeter. He was born in 1826, educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and married, in 1864, Esther, only child of the late Mr James Milne, of Heyside Shaw, Lancashire. He took orders in 1859, which he resigned in 1883 under the provisions of the Clergy Relief Act, and entered as a Student at the Middle Temple. Unsuccessful.

MASON, HUGH, of Groby Hall, Ashton-under-Lyne, Liberal candidate for Ashton-under-Lyne, was a son of Mr Thomas Mason, manufacturer, of Stalybridge, and was born about 1820. He was extensively engaged as a merchant and manufacturer in Lancashire, is a member of the Mersey Dock Board, and had been president of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce. He was a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Lancashire, and also a magistrate for Cheshire. Mr Mason married a daughter of the late Mr George Ashworth, of Rochdale. Unsuccessful.

POTTER, THOMAS BAYLEY, of Courtfield-gardens, South Kensington, Liberal candidate for Rochdale, is a son of the late Sir Thomas Potter, of Buile-hill, Manchester, by Esther, daughter of Mr Thomas Bayley, of Booth Hall, near Manchester, and was born at Manchester in 1817. He was educated at Rugby and at University College, London. Mr Potter was formerly in business as a merchant at Manchester. He is a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Lancashire. He has been hon. secretary of the Cobden Club since its formation in 1866, and has sat in Parliament for Rochdale since Mr Cobden's death in 1865. Mr Potter married, in 1846, Mary, daughter of Mr Samuel Ashton, of Gee Cross, Hyde. Mrs Potter died at Cannes on the 6th of November, 1885. Successful.

RAIKES, HENRY CECIL, Conservative candidate for Cambridge University, is the eldest son of the late Mr Henry Raikes, of Llwynegryn, Flintshire, by Lucy Charlotte, daughter of the late Ven. Francis Wrangham, Archdeacon of Craven, was born in 1838, and was educated at Shrewsbury and Trinity College, Cambridge. He married in 1861 Charlotte Blanche, fourth daughter of Mr Charles Blayney Trevor Roper, of Plas-Teg, Flint. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1863, and elected a Bencher in 1880. He is a magistrate for Cheshire, a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Flintshire, and president of the Central Council of Diocesan Conferences. He was chairman of the Council of the National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Associations from 1868 to 1875, chairman of the Church Defence Institution from 1867 to 1874, and chairman of Ways and Means and Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons from 1874 to 1880. Successful.

**RANKIN, JAMES**, of Bryngwyn, Hereford, Conservative candidate for North Herefordshire, is the only son of the late Mr Robert Rankin, of Bromborough Hall, Cheshire, by his marriage with Anne, daughter of Mr John Strang, of St. Andrews, and was born in 1842. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and graduated in the first-class of the Natural Science Tripos of 1865. He is a magistrate for the borough and county of Hereford, a deputy-lieutenant for the county, of which he served the office of high sheriff in 1873, and chief steward of the borough. Mr Rankin, who represented the now disfranchised borough of Leominster in the last Parliament, married, in 1865, Annie Laura, second daughter of Mr Christopher Bushell, of Hinderton, Cheshire. Unsuccessful.

**RATHBONE, WILLIAM**, Liberal candidate for North Carnarvon, is the eldest son of Mr William Rathbone, of Liverpool, by his marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Samuel Greg, of Quarry Bank, near Manchester. He is a partner in the firm of Messrs Rathbone Bros., merchants and shipowners, and of Messrs Ross T. Smyth and Co. He entered Parliament in 1868 as member for Liverpool, which town he represented till the year 1880. At the general election, in 1880, Mr Rathbone unsuccessfully contested South-West Lancashire, but was elected for North Carnarvonshire in the autumn of the same year. Mr Rathbone is a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Lancashire. Successful.

**RIGBY, JOHN**, Liberal candidate for North Cambridgeshire, is the second son of Mr Thomas Rigby, late of Hatton, Cheshire, and was born in 1834. He was educated at the Liverpool College and at Trinity College, Cambridge, was second wrangler and second Smith's prizeman, and obtained a place in the second class of the Classical Tripos, when he was elected a Fellow of Trinity. In 1860 he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, of which society he is now a Benchet, and from 1875 to 1881 was junior equity counsel to the Treasury, and in the latter year he was created a Queen's Counsel. Successful.

**SAMUELSON, JAMES**, Liberal candidate for the Kirkdale Division of Liverpool, of Trevenna, Birkenhead, is the son of Mr S. H. Samuelson, of Liverpool and Hull. He was born at Hull in 1829, and educated privately. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple in 1870, and joined the Northern Circuit. Mr Samuelson married Fanny, daughter of the Rev. W. Woreley, of Gainsborough. Unsuccessful.

**SCHNEIDER, WILLIAM HENRY**, Conservative candidate for Barrow-in-Furness, of Belsfield, Windermere, is the son of the late Mr John Henry Powell Schneider, of Southgate, Middlesex. He was born in 1817. In 1842 he married, first, Augusta, daughter of Mr R. mith, of Poulton Manor, Cheshire. She died in 1862,

and he married, secondly, in 1864, the second daughter of the Rev. Joseph Turner, vicar of Lancaster. Mr Schneider is an ironmaster and merchant. He is a magistrate for Lancashire, and represented Norwich from 1857 to 1859. Unsuccessful.

**SIDEBOTTOM, TOM HARROP**, Conservative candidate for Stalybridge, of Etherow House, Mottram, Cheshire, is the eldest son of the late Mr William Sidebottom, J.P., by Agnes, daughter of the late Mr Jonah Harrop, of Bardsley, and was born in 1826. He was educated at the Manchester Grammar School. He is a magistrate for Cheshire and Derbyshire, and is owner of extensive manufactories. Successful.

**SIDEBOTTOM, WILLIAM**, Conservative candidate for the High Peak Division of Derbyshire, of Harewood-lodge, Broadbottom, is the youngest son of the late Mr W. W. Sidebottom, of Etherow House, Ashton-under-Lyne. He was Mayor of Glossop 1873-74, is a captain in the 4th Cheshire Rifle Volunteers, and unsuccessfully contested North Derbyshire in 1880. Successful.

**STANLEY, HON. EDWARD LYULPH**, Liberal candidate for Oldham, of Harley-street, W., is third son of the second Lord Stanley of Alderley, by the Hon. Henrietta Maria, eldest daughter of the 13th Viscount Dillon, and was born in London in 1839. He was educated at Eaton and Balliol College, Oxford, and was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1865. Mr Stanley has sat for Oldham since 1880, and had unsuccessfully contested the borough on two occasions previously. He was also a member of the London School Board until the last election, when he was unseated. Mr Stanley married, in 1873, Mary Katherine, daughter of Mr J. Lowthian Bell, of Rounton Grange, Northallerton. Unsuccessful.

**STEPHEN, OSCAR LESLIE**, Conservative candidate for the Crewe Division of Cheshire, of 55, Cadogan-square, London, is the second son of Mr George Stephen, of Aberdeenshire. He was born in 1819. He is a magistrate of Leicestershire, chairman of the North London Railway, and a director of the London and North-Western Railway Company. He was a partner for many years in the firm of Samuel Allsopp and Son, brewers, Burton-on-Trent. He married, in 1841, Isabella, only daughter of the late Mr William Bikmyre, captain in the Lanarkshire Militia, but was left a widower in 1876. Unsuccessful.

**SUMMERS, WILLIAM**, Liberal candidate for Stalybridge, of Sunnyside, Ashton-under-Lyne, is the second son of the late Mr John Summers, of Stalybridge, by Mary, daughter of the late Mr Samuel Woolley, and was born at Stalybridge in 1853. He was educated at Owens College, Manchester, the University of London, and University College, Oxford, and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1881. Unsuccessful.

**SWETENHAM, EDMUND, Q.C.**, Conservative candidate for Carnarvon Boroughs, is the second son of Mr C. Swetenham, Somerford Booths Hall, Cheshire. He was born in 1822, educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, and married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Wilson Jones, of Hartsheath Park, County Denbigh; and, secondly, Gertrude, second daughter of Mr Ellis Cunliffe. He was called to the Bar in 1848, and was made a Queen's Counsel in 1880. He is a magistrate for Denbighshire.

**TIPPING, WILLIAM**, Conservative candidate for Stockport, of Brasted Park, Kent, was born at Liverpool in 1816, and married a daughter of Mr Benjamin Walker, of Leeds. He represented Stockport in the Parliament of 1868-74, and is a magistrate for Lancashire, the West Riding of York, and the county of Kent, and a director of the London and North-Western Railway. Successful.

**TOLLEMACHE, HENRY JAMES**, Conservative candidate for the Eddisbury Division of Cheshire, is the eldest son of Mr Wilbraham Tellemache, of Dorfold Hall Nantwich. He was born in the year 1816, and was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, and is a captain in the Earl of Chester's Yeomanry and a magistrate for Cheshire. Successful.

**TOMKINSON, JAMES**, Liberal candidate for the Wirral Division of Cheshire, is the eldest surviving son of the late Colonel William Tomkinson, of Willington Hall, Tarporley, by Susan, daughter of Mr Thomas Tarleton, of Bolesworth Castle, and was born in 1810. He was educated at Rugby, and Balliol College, Oxford. He is a magistrate for Cheshire, and captain in the Earl of Chester's Yeomanry Cavalry. He unsuccessfully contested West Cheshire at the by-election of 1881 against Mr H. J. Tollemache. Unsuccessful.

**VALENTINE, CHARLES JAMES**, Conservative candidate for the Cockermouth Division, was born at Stockport in 1837, being the son of the late Mr James Valentine, of that place. In 1861 he married Ann, daughter of Mr Peter Kirk, of Chapel-en-le-Frith. He was educated privately. He has resided at Workington, Cumberland, for 22 years, and has been intimately connected with the iron and steel trades of the district during the whole of that time. He is managing director of the Moss Bay Iron Company, a director of the Cockermouth and Workington Railway Company, and of several local industrial undertakings. He is a magistrate for Cumberland. Successful.

**VERDIN, W. H.**, Conservative candidate for the Northwich Division of Cheshire, is the youngest son of the late Mr Joseph Verdin, of Northwich. He is engaged in the Cheshire salt trade, and is a member of the firm of Joseph Verdin and Sons. Mr Verdin was educated at the Grammar School of Northwich, and is married to a daughter of Mr Harrison, of Liverpool. He is a magistrate for Cheshire. Unsuccessful.

**WATKIN, SIR EDWARD WILLIAM**, Liberal candidate for Rythe, of Rose-hill, Northenden, Cheshire, is a son of the late Mr Absalom Watkin, J.P., and was born in 1819. He was educated at Manchester, and was formerly a merchant there. He is chairman of the South-Eastern and other railway companies, a magistrate for Manchester and the counties of Kent, Lancaster, and Chester, of which county he was High Sheriff in 1874, and a deputy-lieutenant for the Tower Hamlets. Sir Edward Watkin represented Stockport from 1864 till 1868, and has sat for Hythe since 1874. He married, in 1845, Mary Briggs, daughter of the late Mr Jonathan Mellor, J.P., of Hone-house, Oldham. Successful.

**WEST, MAJOR WILLIAM CORNWALLIS**, Liberal candidate for Western Denbighshire, of Ruthin Castle, Ruthin, is the second son of the late Mr Frederic West, grandson of John, second Earl De La Warr, by his marriage with Theresa, daughter of the late Captain John Whitby, of Newlands Manor, Lymington, Hants. He was born in 1835, is lord-lieutenant of Denbighshire and lieutenant-colonel of the 1st Volunteer Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Major Cornwallis West unsuccessfully contested Lymington in 1874 and West Cheshire in 1880. He married, in 1872, Miss Fitz-Patrick, daughter of Mr and Lady Olivia Fitz-Patrick, and grand-daughter of Thomas, second Marquis of Headfort.

**WILLIAMSON, STEPHEN**, Liberal candidate for St. Andrews Burghs, was born at Kilrenny, Fifeshire, in 1827, and was educated at Anstruther and St. Andrews. He entered upon a commercial life at Liverpool, becoming a member of the eminent firm of Balfour, Williamson, and Co., of that city. He has sat for the St Andrews Burghs since April, 1880. Successful.

**YERBURGH, ROBERT**, Conservative candidate for Chester, is the third son of the Rev. Richard Yerburch, rector of High Bickington, North Devon, by Susan, daughter of Mr John Higgin, of Greenfield, Lancaster. He was born in 1853, and educated at Harrow and University College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1877. He was called to the Bar in 1880 at the Middle Temple, and joined the Northern Circuit. Mr Yerburch is private secretary to Mr Akers Douglas, Political Secretary to the Treasury. Unsuccessful. G. B.

## Replies.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT SIXTY YEARS AGO.

Seeing in your last week's issue, "Recollections of Stockport" (specially contributed) it states

that Mr John Cheetham, who was Mayor of Stockport in the year 1800, built Green Bank House, Heaton Norris, I beg to say your contributor is evidently misinformed. It is true Mr Cheetham lived at Green Bank, but the house in question was built by my great uncle, Michael Walters, and his nephew, Michael Walters, occupied the house for some time, and his son, the late Henry Walters, my father, was born there July 1st, 1818.

Heaton Norris.

HENRY WALTERS.

May I ask you to insert the following in your valuable paper under the heading of "Recollections of Stockport." In your last week's edition your contributor says:—"Mr John Cheetham, who was Mayor of Stockport in the year 1800, and who built Green Bank House, on the Old-road, Heaton Norris." This is an error. Michael Walters, attorney, built Green Bank House, Old-road, Heaton Norris, and died in 1810, and is buried in St. Peter's Churchyard, Stockport.

JOHN BAYLEY WALTERS.

Green Bank House, Mayfield-road, Alexandra Park, Manchester.

#### WHEELOCK LORD MAYOR'S FEAST.

In connection with "The Lord Mayor's Feast," as

formerly held at Wheelock, the following particulars may be of some interest to your correspondent. A list of names is here given of the more prominent persons taking part in this annual feast.

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Mr Bennett .....    | wharfinger        |
| " Bull .....        | silk throwster    |
| " J. Cotton .....   | farmer and grocer |
| " Dunville .....    | saddler           |
| " Hailstone .....   | grocer and draper |
| " M. Johnson .....  | ironfounder       |
| " J. Jones .....    | publican          |
| " Pedley .....      | farmer            |
| " A. Pointon .....  | publican          |
| " T. Stringer ..... | timber merchant   |
| " Upton .....       | brewery traveller |
| " Williamson .....  | salt proprietor   |

With Mr J. Farr (hairdresser &c.) acting as waiter, attired in clothes for the occasion, provided by Mr Williamson. The Mayor was elected annually, the feast being held at the New Inn, Mr James Jones the landlord. After the usual toasts had been drunk, village matters were discussed, bye-laws enacted, which as far as possible were enforced in the village. These meetings were discontinued about the year 1840 or 1850.

Wheelock.

GEORGE BOLAS.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1886.

## Notes.

### CHESHIRE CHEESE MAKING IN THE OLDEN TIME.

It seems to be the fashion of late among some people who certainly cannot be competent judges of what a good cheese ought to be to disparage the Cheshire system of cheese making, and so Cheshire farmers are receiving a lot of gratuitous advice to alter their method of cheese manufacture, and to go in for the production of articles altogether different from what they have been hitherto producing, and that, it is supposed, would be better suited to modern tastes. Now, this appears to me to be very flippant advice, inasmuch as a Cheshire cheese of the best quality is as delicious in flavour as any other that can be produced in any country in the world, and certainly very superior in every respect to a large proportion of the cheeses we import. There is no reason whatever why Cheshire dairymen should abandon the old system of cheese making that has hitherto made them famous for

the purpose of imitating continental or other methods of dealing with cream and curds. All that should be necessary in order to maintain the supremacy of the Cheshire manufacture is that there should be greater uniformity of make than has been hitherto attained, and that by far the largest portion of the cheese produced should be "Cheshires" of the best quality. This is the object that the promoters of the proposed dairy school have in view. It is hoped that technical training will do all that is required by making the production of cheese the rule and not the exception, as is the case at present. It is only by raising the value and quality of the dairy produce of the country that foreign competition can be met. The complaint respecting the want of uniformity in the make of Cheshire cheese is a very old one, nor is it easy to see how great variations in the quality are to be avoided at times unless, indeed, by the general adoption of cheese factories—a system that does not commend itself to the generality of Cheshire dairy farmers.

It is proposed in this article, and at a time when

the movement for the establishment of a dairy school for Cheshire is in progress, to give some account of the old system of Cheshire cheese making, with a view of enabling cheese makers to notice where improvements have recently been made or are still possible. First, with regard to uniformity in every part of the process, it is no wonder that in old times it did not prevail. The degree of heat at setting the milk together was never measured, the quantity of steep was guessed at, and the sweating or fermenting of the cheese when made was accidental. The cheese used to be generally made with two meals milk, and that in dairies where two cheeses were made in a day. In the beginning and end of the season three, four, and even five or six meals milk was kept for the same cheese. The proportion of cream withheld from the milk varied. In the best dairies the general custom was to take about a pint of cream, when two meal cheeses were made from the night's milk of 20 cows. In order to make cheese of the best quality, and in the greatest abundance, it was considered necessary to allow the cream to remain in the milk. To no part of the process was greater attention given than the setting the cheese together. The quantity as well as the quality or texture of the curd depended in a great measure upon the length of time the cheese was in coming, and the time, again, depended on the state of the atmosphere and the heat of the milk when put together. In this stage of the art, where accuracy seemed to be essential, there was no other guide but the hand. The thermometer of the Cheshire dairy woman was constantly at her fingers' ends. Accordingly the heat of the milk when set was regulated by guess work, by the supposed warmth of the room and the quantity and strength of the steep, so that the milk might be the proper length of time in coagulating, and which was generally thought to be about an hour and a half. The evening's milk of, say 20 cows, having stood all night in the cooler and pans, the cheesemaker in the morning skimmed off the cream from the whole of it, first taking off all the froth and bubbles, amounting perhaps to about a pint. This being not thought proper to put into the cheese, it went into the cream mug to be churned for butter. While the dairy-woman was thus employed the cows were being milked, and a fire was lighted under the furnace, which was half full of water. As soon as the night's milk was skimmed, it was all carried into the cheese tub, with the exception of three or four gallons, which was immediately

placed in the furnace of hot water in the pan and made scalding hot. Half of the milk thus heated was poured into the cheese tub and the other half poured to the cream, which was poured to another brass pan. By this means all the cream was liquefied and dissolved, and in that state was poured into the cheese tub. But before this was done several vessels of milk, or perhaps the whole morning's milk, were poured into the cheese tub. An important point that I want to come at is that in the old times there were great variations in the practice of different dairies, and so far as I know this is still the case. In some dairies there was no heating of the night's milk, while in others they used to heat one-third, one-half, and even more than that of the previous night's milk. The curd, broken very fine, was then hand pressed in a cheese vat, and subsequently put into presses of different weights. The presses were as much as 15 cwt., and while some put the cheese under the heaviest press first, others preferred to commence with the lightest. After sundry pressings and turnings during a period of about 48 hours the cheese was taken to the salting-house and placed up to the middle in brine, and the upper surface covered with salt. The cheese was then washed in luke-warm water, and after being dried with a cloth, it was placed on the drying benches, where it remained about seven days. It was then washed with warm water as before, and placed in the warmest portion of the cheese-room. During the first seven days in the cheese-room it was every day well rubbed over, and generally smeared with sweet whey butter. The cheese-rooms used to be commonly placed over the cow houses, for the purpose of obtaining the degree of temperature, from the heat of the cattle underneath, essential to the ripening of the cheese. Thatched roofs were for obvious reasons always considered essential for cheese rooms, and before the cheese was brought into the rooms the floors were well littered with coarse grasses, rushes, or wheat straw. There was great variation in the quality of Cheshire cheese in those days as well as in the management, and a great deal was left to guess work, yet I have a strong impression that the quality of the greater portion of the Cheshire cheese that was made say even as far back as 100 years ago was quite equal, if not superior, to what is produced to-day.—*Stockport Advertiser*.



## STOCKPORT PARISH REGISTERS.

## III.

## NOUEMBER, 1585.

## BURIED.

- 4.—Ottywell Dand of Marple.
- 10.—The wyfe of Alexander Bowerhouse *als* Mosse.
- 10.—Robte sonne of Hughe Low of Denton.
- 11.—Arthur Rey of Redish.
- 18.—Ales Sydebothom of Bredbury Greene.
- 19.—A daughter of Neald the carryer.
- 23.—The wyfe of Lawrence Rauenscroft of Bramhall.
- 26.—The wyfe of Henry Piggot of Stockport.

[The above are the only entries in the Register for the month of November—all burials. The only way that I can account for the entire absence of baptisms and marriages, both of which I feel sure must have been solemnised in St. Mary's during the month, is that the first records must either have been wholly or partially destroyed in the troublous years that followed, thereby preventing the rector of some half-century later obeying Cromwell's decree that every baptism, marriage, and burial should be copied in a "fair register book of vellum."]

## DECEMBER, 1585.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—John sonne of Henry Daniell.
- 2.—Willm and Ales the sonne and daughter of Raffe Browne of Stockport.
- 10.—Margret daughter of Hughe Rowbothom.
- 21.—John sonne of Peter Pimlott.
- 30.—Hamnet Hyde *als* Warde sonne of Thomas Ward of Northbury.

## MARRIED.

- 5.—John Ardern and Jone Bennetson.
- 22.—Thomas Hibbert and Margrett Bradshaw.

## BURIED.

- 1.—The wyfe of John Hall of Stockport.
- 3.—Francis sonne of Robte Shaw.
- 7.—Richard sonne of Christopher Barnes.
- 11.—Edward Elcocke.
- 13.—Ales daughter of Raffe Browne of Stockport.
- 15.—Henry son of John Goodyer of the Outwoode in Echells.
- 16.—Anne wyfe of Raffe Browne of Stockport.
- 23.—Reinolde sonne of Willm Thorniley of the hall house.
- 27.—Ales daughter of George Burgess.

## JANUARY, 1585-6.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—John sonne of Margery Willmson.

- 3.—Richard sonne of Myles Herod of Stockport.
- 3.—Humffrey sonne of John Hall.
- 9.—Marie daughter of Richard Gerard parson of Stockport.
- 9.—Isabell daughter of Guy Seddon.
- 14.—John sonne of John Cleaten.
- 20.—James sonne of George Barret.
- 28.—Katherine daughter of Richard Brentnall.
- 29.—Willm sonne of Leonard Harrison.
- 31.—Ellen daughter of John Higham.

## MARRIED.

- 16.—Thomas Collier and Ales Bennetson.
- 17.—John Grantham and Izabell Elcocke.
- 23.—Richard Hibbert and Anne Ashton.
- 24.—James Shepley and Anne Thorniley.
- 30.—Thomas Thumston and Ales Stockports.
- 31.—Alexander Mosse and Margery Bowland.

## BURIED.

- 2.—Willm sonne of Raffe Browne.
- 15.—Ales daughter of Robte Sydebothom.
- 16.—Elizabeth Collier of Stockport.
- 16.—John sonne of John Cleaten.
- 17.—The wyfe of Robte Brooke of Redishe.
- 20.—An infant of Francis Elcocke.
- 21.—Roger Rauenscroft of the Holte.
- 27.—Elizabeth daughter of Myles Herod of Stockport.

## FEBRUARIE, 1585-6.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Thomas sonne of Robte Swyndella.
- 2.—George sonne of John Ashton.
- 11.—Robte sonne of James fiell of Stockport.
- 16.—Margret daughter of Robte Torkinton.
- 20.—Anne daughter of Robte Brentnall.
- 28.—John sonne of Raffe Cowper.

## MARRIED.

- 6.—Reinolde Burges and Ellen Thorniley.
- 7.—Raffe Dickenson and Elizabeth Lowe.
- 7.—Thomas Bowerhouse and Katherine Jackson.
- 13.—George Shawcrosse and Margery Smyth.
- 14.—Richard Holte and Johan Chatterton.
- 15.—George Mosse and Elizabeth Hall.
- 19.—John Jackson and Katherine Robynson.

## BURIED.

- 3.—Robte Higham of Higham.
- 5.—Margery flayrecloughe.
- 8.—George sonne of John Ashton.
- 11.—Elizabeth daughter of John Hudson.
- 16.—John sonne of John Brambell.
- 16.—Willm sonne of William Brocke of Bramhall.
- 20.—The wyfe of Robte Shaw of Stockport.
- 23.—The wyfe of Nicholas Danyell of Stockport.
- 24.—Margret daughter of Robte Torkinton.
- 25.—Richard sonne of Ellys Taylor.

MARCH, 1585-6.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—John sonne of Thomas Bordman.
- 2.—John sonne of Thomas Roson of Stockport.
- 5.—Margret daughter of George Cheetham.
- 6.—Henry sonne of Henry Harropp.
- 17.—Thomas sonne of Lawrence ffallowes.
- 17.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Harrison of Stockport.
- 20.—Thomas sonne of Richard Oldham.

BURIED.

- 2.—Christopher Phallowes of Bramhall.
- 4.—An infant of Spooners of Hyde.
- 6.—John sonne of Raffe Cowper.
- 6.—John sonne of Thomas Bordeman.
- 10.—The wyfe of John Pickford of Northbury.
- 13.—Ellen daughter of Hughe Hanley.
- 13.—Ellen daughter of Lawrence Taylor.
- 14.—A daughter of John Highams of Hyde.
- 16.—GEORGE HOLME OF HOLME GENT.
- 16.—An infant of Ralph Marslands.
- 21.—Thomas Thorniley of Redish.
- 23.—The wyfe of Willm ffallowes of Bramhall.

MARCH, 1586.

BAPTISED.

- 25.—Susan daughter of John Cheetham.

BURIED.

- 30.—Hugh Burdsell of Marple.

APRILL, 1586.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Alexander sonne of Raffe Cheetham.
- 10.—Ursula daughter of John Shuttleworth of Brinnington.
- 17.—Anne daughter of Robte Lees.
- 20.—John sonne of John Matley of Stockport.
- 22.—Robte sonne of Robte Thorniley.
- 27.—Izabell daughter of Richard Hall.

BURIED.

- 1.—Thomas sonne of Lawrence ffallowes.
- 2.—The wyfe of Alexander Elcocke of Stockport.
- 4.—Robte Downes of Echulls.
- 6.—Margret Harrison of Heaton.
- 8.—Johan Hanley of the Woode.
- 13.—An infant of Thomas Greenes of Lancashire.
- 14.—Ellen Smyth of Denton.
- 14.—A pore olde woman was buried same day.
- 21.—Richard Davenport of Bramhall.
- 23.—The wyfe of Hugh Greenes.
- 25.—John sonne of Willm Casson.

MAIE, 1586.

BAPTISED.

- 13.—Ellen daughter of John Henshall of Bramhall.
- 13.—Elizabeth daughter of Robte Seale.

- 18.—Edward sonne of John Byron of Stockport.
- 30.—Robte sonne of John Marsland of Bosson.
- 31.—Ellen daughter of George Brookshaw.

MARRIED.

- 12.—Lawrence Walmesley and Ellen Downes.
- 29.—Nicholas Blomiley and Jane Elcock.

BURIED.

- 2.—The wyfe of Robte Shaw.
- 5.—Willm Marsland of Northbury.
- 9.—James sonne of George Barret.
- 10.—Johan ffallowes of Bramhall.
- 11.—Katherine Smith of Brinnington.
- 12.—Margery Wilson widow.
- 14.—The wyfe of Nicholas Greenes of Stockport.
- 21.—Isabell daughter of Willm Cheadle.
- 26.—Willm Tetlow.
- 31.—The wyfe of Reinold Bennetson.

JUNE, 1586.

BAPTISED.

- 5.—Ales daughter of Henry Browne.
- 7.—Anne daughter of Hugh Edge.
- 7.—Dorothy daughter of Ambrose Cheetham.
- 13.—Richard sonne of John Wharnby of Torkinton.
- 17.—Robte sonne of Raffe Humston.
- 18.—Ales daughter of Willm Chorlton.
- 19.—Ales daughter of Robte Fletcher.
- 29.—Olyver sonne of George Mosse.

MARRIED.

- 2.—Raffe Owen and Elizabeth Pycroft.

BURIED.

- 8.—Anne daughter of Hugh Edge.
- 9.—THE WIFE OF RONDULL WINNINGTON OF OFFERTON GENT.
- 13.—Thomas senne of Robte Swyndells.
- 23.—James Low of Marple.
- 23.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Cottrell.
- 23.—Roger Barret of Echulls.
- 25.—Cycelye Wakefield.
- 26.—Richard Lingard.

JULYE, 1586.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—JANE DAUGHTER OF GEORGE REDISHE GENT.
- 13.—Mary daughter of Thomas Collier.
- 15.—Raffe sonne of Willm Thorniley.
- 24.—Cycely daughter of Gervis Ashton.
- 26.—Willm sonne of Richard Comberbach.
- 29.—John sonne of Robte Bridge.
- 31.—Elizabeth daughter of Ottiwell Blomiley.

MARRIED.

- 4.—Robte Ridge and Ellen Chamlett *als* Smith.

BURIED.

- 12.—The wyfe of Thomas Higham of Bomiley.
- 17.—Robte sonne of Raffe Thumston.

- 18.—The wyfe of Richard Knowles of Rediah.  
 26.—Richard sonne of John ffallowes.  
 27.—Nicholas Hibbert.  
 30.—John Whittaker.

## AUGUST, 1586.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—WILLIAM THE SONNE OF RAFFE ARDERNE OF  
 CROOKILEY GENT.  
 6.—JOHN THE SONNE OF WILLIAM DAUENPORT OF  
 BRAMHALL ESQUIER.  
 7.—Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Leigha.  
 21.—John sonne of [blank] Stanley of Northbury.  
 28.—Reinolde sonne of Thomas Thorniley.

## MARRIED.

- 1.—Robte Cheetham and Johan Hanley.  
 21.—John Cheetham and Margret Garlick.

## BURIED.

- 4.—Margery Thorniley.  
 5.—Otes Bradley.  
 5.—James Cheetham.  
 14.—An infant of James Geffersons of Bramhall.

## SEPTEMBER, 1586.

## BAPTISED.

- 11.—Katherine daughter of Raffe Tylor.  
 15.—Nicholas sonne of Thomas Andrew.  
 18.—Willm sonne of Hughe Mottram.

## MARRIED.

- 19.—Willm Carwood and Brigitt Ashten.

## BURIED.

- 8.—Jane daughter of John Robinson.  
 11.—Johan daughter of George Talbott.  
 14.—James sonne of Robte Arderne.  
 17.—John Tomlinson of the Water Meetings.  
 22.—An infant of Redfearnes.  
 25.—An infant of Kelsalla.  
 26.—Rondull Thorniley.

## OCTOBER, 1586.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Anne daughter of Raffe Lowe of Stockport.  
 4.—Henry sonne of Robte Hyde of Haughton.  
 14.—Willm sonne of Raffe Unwyn.  
 15.—Anne daughter of Robte Daniell.  
 18.—Ursula daughter of Thomas Bowerhouse.  
 21.—Elizabeth daughter of John Pycroft.

## MARRIED.

- 6.—George Hardman and Margret Low.  
 10.—Christopher Lowe and Ales Sharshaw.  
 30.—Richard Winstanley and Cicely Burtenshaw.

## BURIED.

- 13.—Dorothy daughter of Robte Thorniley.  
 16.—Charles Bradley *als* Hobson.  
 21.—The wyfe of Raffe Higgenbothom of Marple.

## NOUEMBER, 1586.

## BAPTISED.

- 13.—Ales daughter of Raffe Dickson.  
 13.—Martin sonne of Robte Sydebottom.  
 27.—John sonne of John Oldham of Stockport.  
 27.—Margery daughter of John Cook *als* Robinson of Stockport.

## MARRIED.

- 13.—Edmund Shaw and Margret Wharnby.  
 17.—Lawrence Tonge and Jane Stockworth.  
 20.—Charles Stanfield and Ales Heritage.  
 21.—Willm Cheetham and Ales Didsbury.  
 29.—Willm Cheetham and Margery Bright.

## BURIED.

- 7.—John Richardson *als* Bright.  
 12.—The wyfe of John Smythe of Northbury.  
 13.—A pore woman dyed neare to Stockport Moore in the fields buried.  
 14.—The wyfe of John Kelsall of Stockport.  
 15.—The wyfe of John Bradley of Stockport.  
 23.—Anne daughter of Ric. Pownall.  
 23.—Isabell daughter of Hughe Birch of Bramhall.  
 26.—Henry sonne of Richard Horton.  
 29.—Johan daughter of John Stockport.

## DECEMBER, 1586.

## BAPTISED.

- 4.—Prudence daughter of Ambrose Robinson of Stockport.  
 9.—Jane daughter of Francis Hall.  
 9.—Mary daughter of John Higham.  
 9.—Isabell daughter of John Arderne de Thistlefields.  
 25.—Isabell daughter of John Sydebothom.  
 26.—Jane daughter of Willm Wilkinson.

## MARRIED.

- 9.—John Wakefield and Elizabeth Ashley.

## BURIED.

- 7.—John sonne of Robte Bridge.  
 10.—Christopher sonne of George Barton of Denton.  
 13.—Henry sonne of Henry Daniell.  
 13.—Thomas Taylor de Buttresse.  
 18.—An infant of Willm Hunte.  
 18.—An infant of a pore woman named Harper.  
 20.—Anne Redishe of Offerton.  
 23.—Ales Cheetham of Crookiley.  
 23.—An infant of Raffe Henshawa.  
 30.—John Hall of the Hilgate in Stockport.

## JANUARIE, 1586-7.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Margret daughter of Raffe Didsbury.  
 19.—Margret daughter of Thomas Greene.  
 22.—Margery daughter of Thomas Bordman.  
 27.—Margery daughter of Anthony Brooke of Stockport.  
 27.—John sonne of Willm Walmesley.

ERRATA.

Despite every endeavour to secure accuracy in the transcribing and printing of these Registers, one or two errors have crept in. The following is the correct reading of the entries under the dates given:—

MARCH, 1584-5.

18.—Edward Ward of Stockport buried.

APRIL, 1585.

25.—An infant of Edward Warrene of Pointon, Esquier buried.

MAY, 1585.

4.—Robt Matley of Stockport buried.

AUGUST, 1585.

10.—Nicholas Hassaker.

Didsbury.

E. W. BULKLEY.

SEVERE WINTERS.

II.

1316. The crops wholly failed in Germany. Wheat, which some years before sold in England at six shillings a quarter, now rose to two pounds.

1323. The winter was so severe that both horse and foot passengers travelled over the ice from Denmark to Lubeck and Dantzic.

1339. The crops failed in Scotland, and such a famine ensued that the poorer sort of people were reduced to feed on grass, and many of them perished miserably in the fields. Yet in England wheat was at this time sold as low as three shillings and fourpence a quarter.

1344. It was clear frost from November to March, and all the rivers in Italy were frozen over.

1392. The vineyards and orchards were destroyed by the frost, and the trees torn to pieces.

1406. Was one of the coldest winters ever remembered. Not only was the Danube frozen over, but the sea between Gothland and Oeland, and between Norway and Denmark, so that wolves, driven from the forests, came over the ice into Jutland. In France the vineyards and orchards were destroyed.

1423. Both the North Sea and the Baltic were frozen. Travellers passed on foot from Lubeck to Dantzic. In France the frost penetrated into the cellars. Corn and wine failed and men and cattle perished for want of food.

The successive winters of 1432, 1433, and 1434 were uncommonly severe. It snowed forty days without interruption. All the rivers in Germany were frozen, and the very birds took shelter in the towns. The price of wheat rose in England to twenty-seven shillings a quarter, but was reduced to five shillings in the following year.

1460. The Baltic was frozen, and both foot and horse passengers crossed over the ice from Denmark and Sweden. The Danube, likewise, continued frozen two months, and the vineyards in Germany were destroyed.

1468. The winter was so severe in Flanders that the wine distributed to the soldiers was cut in pieces with hatchets.

1544. The same thing happened again, the wine being frozen into solid lumps.

1548. The winter was very cold and protracted. Between Denmark and Rostock sledges drawn by horses or oxen travelled over the ice.

1564, and again in 1565, the winter was extremely severe all over Europe. The Scheldt froze so hard as to support loaded wagons for three months.

1571. The winter was severe and protracted. All the rivers in France were covered with hard and solid ice, and fruit trees in Languedoc were killed by the frost.

1594. The weather was so severe that the Rhine and the Scheldt were frozen, and even the sea at Venice.

The year 1606 was uncommonly cold, and snow lay of immense depth even at Padua. Wheat rose in the Windsor market from 36 to 56 shillings a quarter.

1621 and 1622. All the rivers of Europe were frozen, and even the Zuider Zee. A sheet of ice covered the Hellespont, and the Venetian fleet was choked up in the lagoons of the Adriatic.

1655. The winter was very severe, especially in Sweden. The excessive quantities of snow and rain which fell did great injury in Scotland.

The winters of 1658, 1659, and 1660 were intensely cold. The rivers in Italy bore heavy carriages, and so much snow had not fallen at Rome for several centuries. It was in 1658 that Charles X. of Sweden crossed the Little Belt over the ice from Holstein to Denmark with his whole army, foot and horse, followed by the train of baggage and artillery. During these years the price of grain was nearly doubled in England, a circumstance which contributed, among other causes, to the Restoration.

1670. The frost was most intense in England and in Denmark, both the Little and the Great Belt being frozen.

1684. The winter was excessively cold. Many forest trees and even the oaks in England were split by the frost. Most of the hollies were killed. Coaches drove along the Thames, which was covered with ice eleven inches thick. Almost all the birds perished.

1691. The cold was so excessive that the famished

wolves entered Vienna, and attacked the cattle, and even men.

The winter of 1695 was extremely severe and protracted. The frost in Germany began in October, and continued till April, and many people were frozen to death.

The years 1697 and 1699 were nearly as bad. In England the price of wheat, which in preceding years had seldom reached 30 shillings a quarter, now mounted to 71 shillings a quarter.

1709. That famous winter called by distinction the *cold winter* occurred. All the rivers and lakes were frozen, and even the seas to the distance of several miles from the shore. The frost is said to have penetrated three yards into the ground. Birds and wild beasts were strewed dead in the fields, and men perished by thousands in their houses. The more tender shrubs and vegetables in England were killed, and wheat rose in its price from two to four pounds a quarter. In the south of France the olive plantations were almost entirely destroyed, nor have they yet recovered that fatal disaster. The Adriatic Sea was quite frozen over, and even the coast of the Mediterranean about Genoa, and the citron and orange groves suffered extremely in the finest parts of Italy.

1716. The winter was very cold. On the Thames booths were erected, and fairs held. The printers and booksellers pursued their professions upon its surface.

1726. The winter was so intense that people travelled in sledges across the strait from Copenhagen to the Province of Scania, in Sweden.

1729. Much injury was done by the frost, which lasted from October till May. In Scotland, multitudes of sheep were buried in the snow, and many of the forest trees in other parts of Europe were killed.

The successive winters of 1731 and 1732 were likewise extremely cold.

The cold of 1740 was scarcely inferior to that of 1709. The snow lay eight and ten feet deep in Spain and Portugal. The Zuider Zee was frozen over, and many thousand persons walked or skated on it. At Leyden the thermometer fell 10° below zero of Fahrenheit's scale. All the lakes in England froze, and a whole ox was roasted on the Thames. Many trees were killed by the frost; and postilions were benumbed on their saddles. In both the years, 1709 and 1740 the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland ordained a national fast, to be held on account of the dearth which then prevailed.

1744. The winter was again very cold. The Maine was covered seven weeks with ice; and at Erora, in Portugal, people could hardly creep out of their houses for heaps of snow.

In 1789 the cold was excessive; and again in 1795,

when the Republican armies of France overran Holland. The successive winters of 1799 and 1800 were both very cold.

1809, and again in 1812, the winters were remarkably severe.

Wilmalaw.

WM. ST. LAWRENCE.

## Replies.

### CHESHIRE BIBLIOGRAPHY.

JOHN CHEYNEY.

In answer to your correspondent Bibliophile's query, it may interest him to know that Mr John Cheyney, who was a bitter opponent to Quakerism, held the small living of Burtonwood, near Warrington, in Lancashire, for some years. The exact date of his appointment to this living does not appear to be known, but it was after 1660 and before 1676. He vacated it in or before 1680. He was the author of several pamphlets directed against Quakerism, such as "A Skirmish made upon Quakerism," "A Warning to Souls," "The Shibboleth of Quakerism," "Quakerism proved to be Gross Blasphemy." In 1677 he published "Two Sermons of Hypocrisy," bound up with which is "An Inspection into the Manners and Practices of the People called Quakers," the whole making a small octave book. All his books are now of much rarity, my own copy of the "Two Sermons, &c.," being the only one I have ever seen. The "Premonition to the Reader" is dated from "Warrington, Jan. 24, 1676-[7]," and in an address "To the Reader," he states that he had set himself "To study and confute the Heresie of the Quakers." Roger Haydock, the well-known Lancashire Quaker, published two tracts entitled "The Skirmisher Confounded" and "A Hypocrite Unveiled and a Blasphemer made Manifest," both directed against Cheyney, the latter being "An Examination of John Cheyney's False Relation of his Dispute with the Quakers at Arley Hall, in Cheshire." There is no reason for thinking Cheyney was a Cheshire man; he was far more likely of Lancashire parentage.

J.P.E.

John Cheyney was an Episcopal priest, residing near Warrington, soon after the Restoration. He wrote many works exposing the so-called heresies of the Quakers, one of which, a quarto printed in London in 1677, is entitled "A Warning to Souls to Beware of Quakers and Quakerism. By occasion of a late dispute at Arley, in Cheshire, between John Cheyney and Roger Haydock [of Penketh], a Sect Master and Speaker to Quakers, on Tuesday, January 23, 1676." I cannot say whether he was a native of Cheshire.

CHESTRIAN.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1886.

## Notes.

### BORDERLAND.

Two places on the borderland, one just within the county of Chester and the other a short distance within the county of Derby, lay within sight of the pilgrims, but not quite on their path, as they travelled eastwards on their Sabbath Day's journey. A strange and weird interest attaches to the places; so, having on more than one occasion overleapt our geographical boundary, a chapter may perhaps be devoted to them, especially as there is more of the "grave" about them than most of the subjects treated in the preceding chapters.

A few months ago "Our Cheshire Diary" in the *Advertiser* contained the following record:—"July 25th, 1823. Mr J. Wood, of Eyam, murdered on the highway between Disley and Whaley Bridge on his return from Manchester market."

The sad story, as it has been related to the writer by residents in the district of its occurrence, was something on this wise.

William Wood was a manufacturer in a small way of business, residing in that village of martyrs which stands on the hill above the valley of the Derwent near Stoke Hall. [It will be remembered that in the years 1665 and 1666 many inhabitants of Eyam were swept off by the plague which raged in the village with a fury exceeding that of the great plague of London. The people remained within their borders and perished, leaving in very truth a deserted village. Two hundred and fifty-nine of their number died of the plague, and eight persons from other diseases.] William Wood had wended his way on foot to Manchester, through Tideswell, Buxton, and Stockport, and having transacted his business he dined at the White Bear Inn in Piccadilly, and then proceeded on his homeward journey in the afternoon of a long summer's day. Three miscreants tracked his footsteps with the object of robbing him of the sum of money which they were satisfied he carried. Wood proceeded in safety through Bullock Smithy as far as Disley, and then ascended the steep hill over which the old road to Whaley Bridge is carried. This part is known by the name Long Side. He had traversed more than half the distance to Whaley Bridge when the dastards proceeded to put their plan into execution. No portion of the whole journey

was so well suited for their purpose. On the right a wood, which offered abundant means for concealment, covered the shoulder of the hill. The nearest house was at Dig Lea, a quarter of a mile distant from the road on the left, down the hill in the direction of that part of the river Goyt where stands all that remains of Yeadsley Hall. Wood had left the last house on the road a mile in his rear at Badger's Clough, and not another dwelling was to be met with until Stone Heads could be reached, a mile in advance. As no part of the journey was more lonely, so no part presented such magnificent scenery, and as the highest elevation of the road had been won, it might be that the tired traveller would seat himself on the low wall and watch the long shadow cast by the mighty mass of Whaley Moor from the light of the setting sun, creep up the sides of Eccles Pike and Chinley Churn, whilst the still higher mountain of Kinder Scout would continue bathed in sunlight until the fiery orb sank below the horizon of the broad Cheshire plain. Certain however, it is, that Wood was attacked and his money demanded. His assailants, however, had scarcely counted on so brave a resistance, for Wood not only refused their demand, but fought for his own with all the tenacity of purpose of a bulldog. It does not appear that the primary object was other than robbery, but the stout resistance, and the hot blood of the well-nigh baffled assailants added to highway robbery the more heinous crime of murder. The courage and power of endurance of poor Wood were such that when he had been felled to the ground he still refused to surrender. One of his assailants left the fray and soon returned bearing a large stone or mass of rock such as are abundant in that mountainous district. With this he pounded the head of their victim as he lay struggling in the hands of the other two. This awful smashing process was continued until the skull was crushed, and the shapeless head forced into a hole formed by the process in the soft ground on the roadside. As the darkness was coming on the murderers decamped with their booty. It appears that in the still evening the sounds of the affray attracted the notice of persons at Dig Lea, but attributing them to some drunken quarrel among a group of wayfarers no further attention was given to them. A carrier stumbled across the body during the evening; he managed to get it lifted into his cart and took it down to the Jodrell Arms at Whaley Bridge.

When the writer first visited the scene of the murder twenty-seven years ago a rough stone in the mortarless wall was rudely inscribed with the initials, "W.W.," and this served to identify the spot, which is about forty yards south of the Disley end of the before-mentioned wood, but on the opposite side of the road. More recently a few feet of the wall were removed and a substantial stone monument was inserted. The cost was defrayed by subscription. The stone contains the following inscription :—

WILLIAM WOOD,  
Eyam, Derbyshire,  
here  
Murdered  
July 18th,  
A D. 1823.

Prepare to meet thy  
GOD.

The plinth is inscribed "Erected 1874"

It will be noted that the date of the murder given in the *Advertiser* was the 25th of July, and that the monument records it as having occurred on the 16th. To increase the confusion, Tuesday (which appears to have been the market day then as now) occurred on the 22nd.

The writer is unable to furnish any information respecting the family, or the personal character of Mr Wood. The surname is one which has been met with in Eyam from time immemorial. Five persons bearing the name died in the year of the plague. Mr William Wood is the author of the interesting history of Eyam, but in it he does not refer to his namesake, the hapless manufacturer. A trivial circumstance illustrates in a touching manner one trait in the character of him for whom

No children run to kiss their sire's return,  
Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share.

A new toy, recently purchased in Manchester, was found in the pocket of the murdered man. He was conveying it home to his child when his journey was so abruptly terminated.

One of the murderers were arrested, tried, and suffered at Chester. Another, never detected, confessed on his death-bed.

From a list of the executions at Chester the following is extracted :—

April 21, 1824. Joseph Dale, for the murder of Mr Wood, near Disley. He had been committed at the preceding assizes, but execution deferred in order to take the opinion of the judges on a point of law urged

in his favour by Mr D. F. Jones, his counsel. He died with great composure.

One of the murderers does not appear to be accounted for.

Fortunately the questionable taste of rendering permanent by means of inscriptions the sensation of horror which attaches to scenes of revolting crime is not common, else it would not be possible to travel far in any direction before meeting some such thrilling memorial. The quotation from the prophet Amos might well have been spared.

When the writer resided at Disley during a few weeks in the summer of 1859 he became acquainted with an intelligent man named John Fox. He was then out of health and sickening to his death, but still able to join in rambles over the hills and up the streams which are the affluents of the Goyt. From Fox the account of the deed of blood was first heard by the writer, and in his company the place of its perpetration was visited. Fox pointed out a hole or depression on the roadside in which he said poor Wood's head had been beaten into the ground. He said it was well known that the cavity had always existed during the third part of a century which had elapsed since the murder, and that no grass ever grew in it. He further stated that he had frequently placed stones in the hole, but always found it empty when he next came to the place, usually in the evening of the day, or on the following morning. The stones were usually only removed to the brink, or a short distance away. On one occasion passing with his spade he filled up the hole carefully, and sodded it neatly over. It was probably on that occasion when he became alarmed by the sensation of something brushing rapidly past him, back and forth—something which he described as the rush of the wings of a large bird flapped close to him, and he was not sorry to hurry along his homeward course. On his return the following morning he found the hole cleared out and in its usual condition. There was one other circumstance which he considered inexplicable. Passing the spot as he was going home one evening after his day's work was over, but in abundant light, he fancied he saw on the low wall close to him a linen jacket or singlet such as labourers wear and which he supposed had been doffed and inadvertently left by some workman employed either on the road or in the adjoining field. He stepped up, and reached out his hand to take it, when it vanished. He concluded that someone (perhaps the owner) was on the other side of the wall and had drawn it over. He therefore looked

over the three feet wall, and then for the first time experienced something of a shock when he could discover neither man nor singlet. Fox persisted that the foregoing were the only experiences in his life which he was unable to refer to human agency. He never saw a ghost, nor was he prepared to admit their existence. The writer cannot recollect whether the wings incident and the singlet incident were said to have occurred on the same occasion—and Fox cannot be referred to, for he has long ago passed over to the majority. The writer became interested in the subject of the hole, and made numerous inquiries. Most persons considered that its existence was a curious and unexplained circumstance, and some others sagely shook their heads as though to indicate

There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,  
Than are dreamt of in your philosophy.

There were not wanting others, however, who stated their conviction that passers by kept the hole clear in order to keep the story alive.

The writer commenced to make experiments. He visited the place frequently, and only on one occasion, besides another to be mentioned immediately, did he ever find any stones in the depression, and never found any vegetation. On that occasion a stone about the size of a walnut was found in it. The writer made it his constant practice to place stones in the hole, sometimes he filled it, more frequently he contributed several, and occasionally he placed a single stone in it. On one occasion he visited the lonely spot late in the evening, placed one stone in the cavity and then retired round the corner of the wood, and returned after waiting and watching for some time. The stone had not been disturbed. In a subsequent year he again spent a few weeks in the neighbourhood, and resumed his attentions to the hole, which he invariably found to remain free from grass and empty. There seems to be nothing in the position or surroundings of the depression to protect it from being silted up with sand and road debris after the first heavy shower. A fall of water from a height will form a hole in soft ground, and a rapid flow of water will deepen a channel, but the usual effect of rain, dust, and traffic is to fill up such a depression as the one under consideration. During recent years the hole has not frequently been visited by the writer, and on the last occasion, before this year, he had so far forgotten its precise location as to miss it altogether. But as he also failed to find either the engraved stone or the modern monument, it is reasonable to conclude that its non-discovery did not prove its

absence. Visiting in the neighbourhood within the last few weeks, Long side was followed and the monument examined. The warm weather had already burst upon us, the lapwings had paired and were wheeling their low flight over marshy places, ever uttering their plaintive cry. The snow had quite disappeared in the valleys, but the remains of a deep wreath covered the roadside on the old track over Whaley Moor, and rendered the expedition fruitless. Two days later the place was visited again, but still the accumulations of snow prevented any examination being made. An intelligent inhabitant of the district was met, a man who needs to pass the place frequently, and whose name is only omitted because permission was not obtained to make it public. He stated that the hole remained, it had always been there so long as he could remember, and his father testified to its continued existence previously. He said that no grass grew in it, that he had frequently filled it up, but it was constantly emptied, and that only on rare occasions had he found any stones therein. He was not able to account for the fact in any way; he had never experienced any other strange occurrences, although he had to pass the place frequently, and at all hours of the day and night. Unable to inspect the place on account of the snow, a personal friend whose name if given would offer a guarantee for his accuracy was good enough to visit the place on March 24th, the first day on which the snow was so far melted as to permit an examination. He reports "There is a hole sixteen inches in diameter and four inches in depth. It contained two stones. No appearance of grass in the hole, and there is no similar hole in the neighbourhood."

Various theories have been advanced to account for the facts. Those most in favour are—

1. That there is some physical reason hitherto unexplained which keeps the depression from being silted up.
2. That the curiosity of the passers by and their interest in the story induces them to keep it cleared out.
3. That some one connected with the murder visits the place as a penance.
4. That the popular belief in a mysterious connection between the alleged circumstances, and the murder is not without foundation.

There are, however, two circumstances which will not pass unnoticed. The monument challenges the attention of all passers, and even the rude



letters on a stone in the wall which existed previously had a similar tendency; also that the maintenance of the hole for more than sixty years is in itself remarkable, and goes far to negative the third hypothesis, which, however, is on other grounds improbable.

Wilmalow.

ALFRED FRYER.

#### PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY OF CHESHIRE.

##### VII.

Before the citizens of Edinburgh had time to recover from their surprise at the daring of the Pretender and his followers thus forcing their way into Edinburgh, Lochiel, chief of the Camerons, with 800 of his clan, secured the arms and guards of the city. At noon on the 17th day of September, the Old Pretender was proclaimed at the Old Cross as James VIII., King of Scotland, England, France, and Ireland. This was followed by the reading of the commission of regency and the manifesto of Prince Charles, his son.

Whilst in Edinburgh the Young Pretender did not neglect the opportunity that presented itself of arming his followers at the Government expense. He had all quarters of the city searched for arms, one thousand muskets being found in the Government magazines; these, however, were not sufficient to supply all the men who had now flocked to his standard, now numbering about 3000 men.

During the time these scenes were taking place in Edinburgh, such as remained loyal to the House of Hanover had begun to wonder what had become of General Cope and the royal army, he and his followers having set out from Edinburgh at the first intimation of what the Young Pretender was about. As already stated, he made his way into the Highlands by one route, whilst Charles and his adherents reached and found Edinburgh unprotected by another. Cope, however, soon saw his error, and, pushing on to Aberdeen, there embarked his army and returned to Dunbar, where he landed the same day that Charles and his men entered the city—September 17th.

On September 20th, the rebels recruited in strength and numbers and nearly all bearing arms, set out eager for the fray, with the intention of meeting Cope and his men on their way from Dunbar. The armies met on the following day at Prestonpans, when after a brief struggle the royal army was completely routed, leaving Charles in undisputed possession of the whole of Scotland. Next day Charles returned in triumph to Edinburgh, where he remained for some time recruiting his forces and arranging for the government of the country during his absence in England. By the end of October he had completed the equipment of his army, now numbering about 6000 men, and hearing that Marshal Wade and the English army had reached Newcastle, he decided upon immediate action.

On the following day (November 1st) he commenced his ill-starred march southward, nor paused until he reached Brampton Moor, eight miles west of Carlisle. After a three days' siege, this town, although strongly garrisoned, and with ample provisions, arms, etc., opened its gates.

After relieving the town and garrison of its arms and provisions, the rebels resumed their march southwards on November 20th. Preston was reached on the 27th, Wigan on the 28th, and Manchester on the 29th of November. At the last-named city the "Manchester Regiment" was raised, the command being given to Francis Towneley, a Catholic, of an old Lancashire family. Here, too, the rebels met with anything but reassuring information. Marshal Wade was already on his way from Newcastle; the Duke of Cumberland was lying in wait for them at Lichfield with 10,000 men; Admiral Vernon cruised the channel with a formidable fleet to intercept supplies; Liverpool was closed against them by the spirit of the inhabitants; and Chester, the key into Wales, was held by the Earl of Cholmondeley, and the bridges at Stockport, Cheadle, and other places were broken down. Amongst other measures commissions were issued to various noblemen and gentlemen of influence to raise troops. A meeting of the gentry of Cheshire was held at Chester October 2, 1745, and resolutions passed to enlist and maintain 2500 men for his Majesty's service. To promote this object Sir Richard Grosvenor commenced a voluntary subscription with £2000 as his first subscription, with a promise of more if required. Many gentlemen subscribed a year's income, and the Bishop of Chester gave £200. It is remarkable that the list contained the names of several Catholics of high rank. The following proclamation was issued in Stockport:—

October 17, 1745. Whereas the Right Honourable the Earl of Cholmondeley has granted George Clarke, Esq., of Stockport, a commission to raise a company of men for his Majesty's service during the rebellion, all persons willing to enter themselves may repair to Peter Worley, Esq., of Platt, Mr Isaac Clegg, Mr John Kenworthy, or Mr John Smith, of the Parsonage, Manchester, when all proper encouragement will be given.

Despite these depressing and disquieting rumours the Chevalier determined to press forward in the direction of London. On November 30 the Prince and a few of his followers reached Stockport, the rest directing their route westward to Knutsford. History tells us that on reaching the Cheshire side of the Mersey Charles found a few country gentry waiting to pay their respects to him, and amongst them an enthusiastic old lady, a Mrs Skyring, who, as a child, had witnessed the landing of Charles II. at Dover in 1660. Since the second, and, as it proved, the final expulsion of the Stuarts in 1688, she had continued hoping to witness another restoration and another happy landing. She had ever since their departure

sent to the royal family in exile half her income, and concealed her name. A staunch Catholic, and fully believing in a second restoration, she is said to have exclaimed, on seeing the Prince, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace!" We have before us, as we write, an engraving of this incident, in which the ancient dame is portrayed as presenting to the Prince a substantial mark of her respect and esteem in the shape of a bag of money, having just sold her jewels, her plate, and every little valuable she possessed. The Prince stands uncovered before her, both being surrounded by his followers, whilst the middle distance is filled in with men bearing pikes, halberds, and banners, the background being occupied by some holy fane. If this scene took place after crossing the river at Tiviot Dale, Stockport, it would be in the Castle Yard, from the position and distance of the church; and, if this is correct, the artist was certainly mistaken in placing a Gothic tower on St. Mary's Church.

On December 1 the whole of the rebel army passed through Macclesfield, in connection with whose visit many incidents may be found recorded in the earlier volumes of CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES. It was at Macclesfield, according to Mr I. A. Finney, that Clarke, the notorious highwayman and outlaw, stabbed one of the Pretender's followers whilst he was buying a cap at a shop next the Angel in Chestergate, Clarke making good his escape through the Angel Inn yard. The Highlanders discovering what had been done threatened to burn the town, and as Clarke could not be found, carried away as hostages the landlord of the Angel and the shopkeeper. It was this same Clarke who five years later (1750) shot a man sent to apprehend him for deer-stealing. The incident is thus recorded on a gravestone to be seen in Prestbury churchyard:—

Beneath this stone lies Edward Green,  
Who for cutting stone famous was seen;  
But he was sent to apprehend  
One Joseph Clarke, of Kerridge End,  
For stealing deer of Squire Downs,  
Where he was slain, and died o'th wounds.

Congleton was reached on the 2nd and Derby on the 4th of December. Further than this the Highlanders would not go without a considerable reinforcement of numbers, the march from the north having done little in the shape of adding to their strength while the French were kept from landing by Admirals Vernon and Byng. Charles very reluctantly agreed to a retreat, seeing that he had penetrated into the heart of England with scarcely more than a handful of men, and argued that nothing but Providence could have led him thus far with so clear and strong a hand. The majority of the Highland chiefs, however, were immovable, they urging the near approach of the Duke of Cumberland, who had reached Stafford with 13,000 men. On December 6, therefore, the retreat north-

wards was begun, and as soon as it became known complete panic followed.

The effect of retreating instead of advancing became strikingly evident. The army appeared anxious only to help itself; the inhabitants no longer appeared to show them the degree of cold respect they had manifested in going. They were looked upon as a defeated army. The Highlanders carried off horses where they could find them, and rode away bareback, and often only with halters of straw. The people did not fail to retaliate where they could. Howitt says that "Near Stockport the inhabitants shot at a Highland patrol, and his comrades in revenge set fire to the village." At Manchester, too, their reception on their retreat was very different from that accorded to them when passing through as an advancing army on their journey southwards. This retreat however was managed with such promptitude, discipline, and courage, that when a division of the royal army ventured to attack the Highlanders near Penrith they were beaten off, and Prince Charles and his followers re-crossed the border on December 20th.

It was not until the spring of the following year that the royal forces under the Duke of Cumberland—the royal butcher—set out to quell the rebellion. On April 16th the armies that were to decide the fortunes of Guelph and Stuart stood face to face on the field of Culloden. Here the royal forces were successful, and here were extinguished for ever the hopes of the Stuarts.

During the whole summer, from April 16th to September 20th, Prince Charles was a fugitive in the Highlands, and notwithstanding the reward of £30,000 for his apprehension, the secret of his retreat was faithfully kept, until he eventually escaped to the Continent, where failure, disappointment, and despair of ever reaching the highest goal of his ambition converted him in after years into a drivelling sot, sinking into imbecility and premature old age.

On June 18th, 1747, Parliament was dissolved, and a new one appointed to meet in the November of the same year. The Cheshire elections resulted as follows:—

21 GEORGE II.

Met November 10, 1747. Dissolved April 8, 1754.

CHESHIRE.—Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
John Crewe, esq.

CHESTER.—Sir Robert Grosvenor, bart.  
Philip Henry Warburton, esq.

Crosby's "Parliamentary Record" gives the following particulars of Chester city election for this year:—  
1747.

Sir R. Grosvenor, bart	.....	W	1049
P. H. Warburton	.....	W	928
J. Mainwaring, jun.	.....	C	758

John Crewe, one of the county representatives, dying, a new writ was ordered  
January 12, 1753.

CHEESHIRE.—Charles Crewe, esq.

The grand measure of this Parliament was passed during the session of 1751, being one for the reformation of the calendar. This great improvement was the work of Lord Chesterfield. Perhaps it will be as well here to state that in 1582 Pope Gregory XIII., in order to rectify the calendar of Julius Caesar, B.C. 45, published a new one, in which ten days, from October 5 to 15, were omitted. The new style was adopted in France, Italy, Spain, Denmark, Holland, Flanders, and Portugal in 1582; Germany, 1584; Switzerland, 1583 and 1584; Hungary, 1587; Great Britain, 1751. The solar year of Julius Caesar consisted of 365 days 6 hours, with every fourth year a leap year. Seeing that the solar year consists of 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes, the odd minutes of difference between the two had in Pope Gregory's time amounted to ten complete days. Hence the necessity for a change. In 1751 this difference had amounted to eleven days, the vernal Equinox this year falling on March 10 instead of March 21. Previous to this date the year did not legally and generally commence in England until March 25. This difference caused great practical inconveniences; and January, February, and part of March sometimes bore two dates, as may be seen in the transcripts of the Stockport Parish Registers, published in these columns. Such a reckoning often led to chronological mistakes. For instance, we popularly say the "Revolution of 1688," as that event was completed in February, 1688, according to the then mode of computation; but if the year were held to begin, as it does now, on the first of January, it would be the "Revolution of 1689." Lord Chesterfield, therefore, brought in a Bill, in which he was ably supported by the Earl of Macclesfield, which provided that the legal year in future should begin with the historic year on January 1, and not, as heretofore, on March 25; and that to correct the error of the

calendar, eleven days should be omitted in September, 1752, so that the day following September 2 should be September 14. Provision was also made for preventing any error arising in the future.

It was about this time that differences began to arise between England, France, and Spain with respect to our American territories, but it was not until 1754 that matters assumed a serious aspect. In the meantime, Parliament had run its legal term of seven years. It was therefore dissolved and writs issued for a new one to assemble November 14, 1754. The Cheshire representatives were:—

27 GEORGE II.

Met November 14, 1751, dissolved March 21, 1761.

CHEESHIRE.—Charles Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
Samuel Egerton, of Tatton, esq.

CHESTER.—Sir Robert Grosvenor, bart.  
Richard Grosvenor, esq.

During this Parliament there were two by-elections, one for the county and one for the city of Chester. The first was on the death of Charles Cholmondeley, April 28, 1756, when his successor was—

CHEESHIRE.—Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
The other was on the death of Sir Robert Grosvenor, in August, 1755, when was substituted—  
CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

The year 1758 saw the commencement of a succession of brilliant engagements. In the East Indies the English arms, under Clive—a native of one of the border counties—were successful in expelling the French, and from this period dates our supremacy in India. Marlborough and Boscawen were equally successful on the high seas; whilst in the following year (1759) Wolfe captured Quebec. Great success attended the English arms in Germany, where the great battle of Minden was gained by the Allies. But George II. was not fated to see the termination of the Seven Years' War, which had been so gloriously begun. He was seized with a fit of apoplexy, and expired October 25, 1760, aged 76 years.

EDITOR.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1886.

## Notes.

RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT SIXTY  
YEARS AGO.

v.

Adjoining Mr Charles Axon's mill was the old Sheepwash Cotton Mill, running full time during Mr Hardy's mayoralty. The name of this old

hive of industry will sound odd to a stranger to the locality. To my mind it is very suggestive. "Sheepwash," to what does it refer? To my mind it implies that this was the spot where the shepherds formerly brought their sheep to the river's brink to be washed. This idea takes us back to the time when this locality was what its name implies—Bridgesfield, the field near the bridge. I have read that at one time the Lanca-

shire Bridge was the only bridge which crossed the river Mersey between Stockport and Warrington. In the year 1823 there was no other roadway crossing the river in our locality but the Lancashire Bridge, Brinksway Bridge, and Cheadle Bridge. Bridgefield comprised the valley extending from Tiviot Dale, bordered by the river Mersey on one side, and Dodge Hill, Lancashire Hill, and Hope Hill on the other. Heaton-lane at one time was what its name implies, a lane leading to Heaton Hall. This hall, which I have tried to describe in a former paper, was still standing in the year 1823, on the triangular piece of ground opposite the Travis Brook Mill. Heaton-lane also was the way leading on to the moorland called Heaton Moor.

The sheepwashing place, the large field, and the moorland adjoining, suggests to my mind that this was once a pasture for sheep. The Sheepwash Mill was worked many years ago by Mr Walmsley. Mr Walmsley was a very quiet and inoffensive personage, rather too much so for the position he held. He was fond of music, and delighted to be in the company of musicians. He had peculiar religious views, and belonged to the sect called "New Jerusalemites," who generally hold their meetings in some small room, and are conspicuous by the fewness of their numbers. Whilst returning home one night Mr Walmsley was waylaid and attacked by one or more garotters and shamefully abused. One of the men was brought to justice, and underwent a term of penal punishment. Mr Walmsley did not long survive this outrage upon his person; it shattered his nerves, and he died shortly after.

The Sheepwash Mill was afterwards worked by the Ashton family with great regularity up to a few years ago. It is now like many of its old associates, waiting patiently to be pulled down. The mill now owned and worked by Col. S. W. Wilkinson was in the year 1823 in full operation, but was let off to several parties, Mr Ralph Orrell being one of them. The mill near the George Hotel, formerly called Binns's, now the Lower Wellington Mill, has had many tenants since the year 1823. It was about this time when Messrs Ralph Pendlebury and James Wilkinson commenced cotton spinning there jointly. These two gentlemen ultimately became two of the most successful cotton spinners Stockport ever had. They both prospered whilst working Binns's Mill. After a time they dissolved partnership. Mr

Pendlebury then started a mill off Wharf-street, Lancashire-hill, and Mr Wilkinson retained the Lower Wellington. This mill has had many occupants since Mr Wilkinson left it. Mr W. H. Smith was working the Mersey Mills, to all appearance successfully, and was residing in his newly-erected mansion in Reddish called Reddish House. Several years before his death Mr Smith took for a partner Mr Charles Carr, under the firm of Smith and Carr. At one time the latter gentleman took a lively interest in the welfare of Stockport. He became very popular, and was much respected by his workpeople and the public at large. He also took a lively interest in the welfare of our Mechanics' Institution, and he did much to raise that institution to a respectable position. At the grand exhibition which took place (as stated before) the gentry of Stockport and neighbourhood vied with each other in bringing to be exhibited their art treasures, their ancient relics, their models of machinery, and everything which would give an *éclat* to the exhibition and throw a light on the past history of Stockport, and we have never had anything approaching to it since. Besides the other duties which Mr Carr rendered at it, he caused to be made and fitted up by his mechanics at the Mersey Mills all the shafting and pulleys which turned the models, and they were turned out as well as hands could make them. Mr W. H. Smith's death occurred in the autumn of the year 1840, and the firm of Smith and Carr came to a sudden collapse. The Mersey Mills were tenantless for about two years after that. During that time a severe thunder storm took place which partially destroyed the noble chimney which stood in the centre of the factory yard. In the autumn of 1842 Mersey Mills were again started by the firm of Messrs Kershaw, Lees, and Co., with Mr Eskrigge the managing director. The Eskrigge family had not been in Stockport long when they became very conspicuous members. Mr Eskrigge, senr., was soon made a justice of the peace for the borough. In the year 1868 his son John was Mayor. In the following year, William Linton Eskrigge, another son, filled the civic chair. In the year 1865, Mr Eskrigge's son-in-law, Mr William Roby Barr, was appointed, and again in the year 1866. Mr Kershaw, the head of the firm, represented Stockport in Parliament from the year 1847 until 1864—four successive Parliaments. Formerly there was a wooden bridge spanning the river Mersey connecting this mill yard with Chester-gate. This mill was kept working by the Eskrigges (excepting the time of the cotton

amine) for over thirty years. They are now slowly undergoing a process of demolition.

The space of ground on the river side between Binns's and the Mersey Mills was once an orchard well stocked with fruit trees. During the time of Mr Hardy's mayoralty the "Grove" Mill (also in Heaton-lane), owned by Captain Brown, was being worked to all appearance successfully. This mill took its name from the grove which formerly covered the slope of Dodge-hill. About the year 1828 Captain Brown extended his works by building the mill which lately abutted the footpath in Heaton-lane. About the year 1831 he again extended by building the large wing on the east end of the old mill. I was a throstle doffer at the Grove Mills during the erection of this last portion. Throstle doffers then, as they are now, were very often in mischief. In getting a foundation for this new wing the excavators had to remove a large bed of rock, which they blew up with gunpowder. This process was something new to the throstle doffers, and we were often at our leisure time watching the excavators. One morning the workmen had fired a shot just before going to breakfast. A number of us were lookers on. As soon as these men had gone we commenced to dig and delve on our own account. I was engaged with a pick in removing the rock recently blown up, when I felt a sudden concussion on my posterior. I turned round to see where this concussion came from, when I observed Mr John Brown's boot preparing to administer another dose, but I did not wait to receive it. After Captain Brown's death the mill was carried on by his son John. Mr John Brown took for a partner in his business a Mr Powell, whom I never knew, under the name of Brown and Powell. At this time Mr John was one of the most popular men in Stockport. Besides carrying on the cotton industry in all its branches, the firm got out a patent and commenced to manufacture throstles on a large scale. They afterwards added bleaching and calico printing to their other multifarious works. It soon became patent that they had more irons in the fire than they could well watch. The result was a sudden collapse. The last time I saw Mr John Brown was in the year 1856. He was then hawking patent oil cans.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

(To be Continued.)

#### CHESHIRE CUSTOMS, IDIOMS, METAPHORS, AND PROVERBS.

The following is the conclusion of Mr Holland's

paper on the second part of this subject, idioms, metaphors, and proverbs. He says:—

"Coal Pit Cale" is an idiom synonymous with "first come, first served." Cale is a Cheshire word meaning turn. "It's my cale" means "it's my turn." Coal Pit Cale is therefore literally "Coal pit turn." It has reference to the farmers' carts which, before the introduction of railways and coal depôts, used to be sent to the pit mouth for coals. It often happened that two or three dozen carts would be waiting at the same time to be filled—the rule, however, was "first come, first served," and this was called "Coal pit cale." Everybody tried to be first on the ground, and I can remember very well that when we used to send a cart from Mobberley to Poynton (a distance of nine or ten miles) the man always started in the middle of the night, so as to be at the pit mouth as near daybreak as possible. "It's aisy bowdin' dain th' latch when nobody poos at th' string" is an expressive Cheshire proverb, which means that anything may be easily accomplished when there is no opposition; but it is more especially applicable to a woman who, never having had an offer of marriage, boasts about remaining single. This proverb has reference to the old doors, of which I have seen several examples, where the latch has a leather thong or string fastened to it, which was passed through a hole in the door, so that the latch could be lifted from the outside by pulling at the string. "The more the merrier" is a proverb very general, I think, throughout England; but the Cheshire version differs from it somewhat, and may perhaps be the original form; or it may simply have been altered from the generally accepted form to suit local circumstances and customs. The Cheshire version is "More and merrier; less and better fare, like Meg o' Wood's merry meal." Who Meg o' Wood may have been I know not, but a "merry meal" is a junketing when a child is born. On such an occasion it is always customary for those in the house to have some gin and water or rum; and this is called "wettin' chollit's yed"—wetting the child's head; and a parent would be considered rather shabby if he did not provide this kind of refreshment. Whilst on the subject of drinking I may mention that a person given to tippling is said to "Cock the little finger." When anything is especially difficult to obtain, we say, "As well try to borrow a fiddle at a wakes." "Ugly enough to wean a foal," "As rugged as a foal," "As hoarse as a cuckoo," "As sulky as a bull," "As hard as a north toad," are all Cheshire colloquisms which I have never met with in print. Why a north toad should be harder than any other kind of toad I am unable to say. "Like stopping an oon (that is an oven) wi' butter" is said of any absolutely useless effort. The old brick oven has a flag, called "th' oonstun" (i.e., ovenstone), reared to the mouth to close it after the bread is put in

to bake. The edges of this stone are plastered round with clay or mud to make the oven air-tight. Obviously butter would be of no use for such a purpose. "He is allus backin' i' th' breechbaut" is a Cheshire phrase in common use applied to a man who is never ready to go ahead. The breechband is a broad leather strap passing round the thighs of a horse fastened to the shafts, against which he presses when backing a cart. "Lading and Caling" is an idiom which means saving in little things. "Oo's a sore life on it for t' mak' things do; oo's allus ladin' and calin'." "Lady Done" is an idiom used as a term of praise about Kelsall. It seems to have originated in this way. At Utkinton Hall, near Tarporley, there once lived a certain Lady Done, whose character and manners appear to have rendered her very popular amongst the country people; and whose memory is still cherished. So that when wishing to praise a woman it is not uncommon to say to her, "There's a *Lady Done* for you." The lanes where cottagers used to turn their cattle previously to the passing of the present Highway Act, were often spoken of as *the long pasture*. "Where do you keep your cows; you've no land?" I once asked. The reply was, "Oh, I turns 'em into th' long pasture." To pull anything "Lymm from Warburton" is a very curious expression, meaning complete separation; pulled entirely to pieces. I believe it originates from the fact that the Church livings of Lymm and Warburton were formerly held together, but that they were eventually separated, and the income of the rectors of Lymm thereby reduced. The sayings relating to a Cheshire Cat are so well known that I should not have introduced them in this paper only I think that the explanations given of them are so extremely unsatisfactory. Whether the suggestion which I offer is any better I am not sure. "To grin like a Cheshire cat" is, I think, the usual form of the saying, and probably the original one. Leigh gives the variants, "To grin like a Cheshire cat chewing gravel," and "To grin like a Cheshire cat eating cheese." Charles Lamb, in one of his letters to Manning, says, "I made a pun the other day and palmed it upon Holcroft, who grinned like a Cheshire cat. (Why do cats grin in Cheshire?—Because it was once a county palatine, and the cats cannot help laughing when they think of it, though I see no great joke in it.)" The meaning and origin of the phrase was asked in *Notes and Queries* (1st series, vol. ii., p. 377) with, I believe, only the following result. At page 412 of the same volume it is stated that cheeses were made in Cheshire some years ago moulded in the shape of a cat; and in 1st series, vol. v., p. 402, the origin is ascribed to the unhappy attempt of a sign painter to represent a lion rampant, which more resembled a cat than a lion. Neither of these explanations is satisfactory; but the last may perhaps give us a clue, and the Cheshire cat may be an heraldic device. I would suggest that it is just possible that the arms of the Earls of Chester, namely, a wolf's head, may be the

original Cheshire cat, for I am bound to say that in the engraving of the coat of arms of Hugh Lupus, as given by Sir Peter Leycester, the wolf's head might very well be mistaken for that of a cat; whilst the grin is unmistakable. It perhaps may not be deemed relevant to remark that although the "origin" of the saying is so obscure, the saying itself is never likely to be forgotten; for the grin of a Cheshire cat as depicted in "Alice in Wonderland" will perpetuate it as long as that most charming of books is read by the children of England. A round piece of wood called a "mundle" about Middlewich, and which is generally made of ash, is used for stirring porridge, or pig's food, or cream which is put in a warm place to "starve" before being churned. In that neighbourhood the proverbial saying "Have a little, give a little, let neighbour lick the mundle," illustrates the maxim that "Charity begins at home." The meaning is, if you have only a little, don't give much away—keep all the porridge for yourself—and let others only lick what remains on the mundle after stirring the porridge. Another common saying when anyone has demeaned himself in order to curry favour is, "That's th' lad as licked the mundle." A person who is given to boasting is said to be "Big in the mouth." An old joiner said to me one day, "You may be sure a man as is big i'th maith, has na mitch in him; same as goin' dain i'th cellar; if you hit th' empty barrels, they maken a din; but if you hit th' full uns, they howd'n their nize." "Empty barrels make the most noise" is also a Cheshire proverb applicable to empty-headed swaggerers.

The following proverbs and colloquial sayings come to me from a Middlewich correspondent:—"Far fetched and dear bought is good for ladies," "As whimsical as Dick's hat-band, that went nine times round, but was too short to tie," "You are always in the field when you should be in the lane," "Go to bed and sleep for wit, and buy land when you have more money," "Quietness is best, as the fox said when he bit the cock's head off," "Beat by yourself, like Lownd's tup," is a saying addressed to a quarrelsome person. Lownds was, I presume, some local celebrity, whose ram was given to knocking people down. "Where there's least room there's always most thrutching," "I'm sure th' owd lad has cast his club at him," is said of a mischievous boy. *Th' owd lad* is one of our Cheshire names for his satanic majesty. This is not the only instance where the devil is represented in Cheshire as carrying a club. In the play of "St. George and the Slasher," which is performed by the soulders, Beelzebub, who is one of the characters, says, on making his entrance—

Here comes I great Beelzebub,

Up o' my shooter I carries a club.

"It runs i'th blood, like wooden legs," is said of a family peculiarity. "As broad as narrow, like Paddy's

plank," is synonymous with saying that anything is "much of a muchness," and I am not sure that I have ever heard the expression "much of a muchness" anywhere but in Cheshire. It is at any rate in very common use, and is said when there appears to be little difference between any two things. A stout person is said to be "Cheshire bred; beef down to th' heels." A deceitful person is said to be "As hollow as a shoe when the foot is out." I heard the following proverb at Frodsham a few weeks since, "It's hard to get a stocking off a bare leg." It was said *apropos* of a bankrupt whose assets were almost nil; as much as to say you cannot expect to get more from a man than he possesses. "Never no more" is an expression very frequently used to denote that the speaker never intends to have anything more to do with a person or thing; that having once been taken in, he is not to be caught again. "Next thowt." *i.e.*, next thought, is an idiom used in Mobberley and the neighbourhood for "now I come to consider," or "now I come to recollect." "No durr," *i.e.*, no door, is a very curious metaphor for any kind of failure; it is in use about Wilmalow. The expression appears to have its origin in a custom very prevalent at Shrovetide of shooting for tea-kettles with bullets out of a common gun at a door for a target. If the bullet missed the door altogether the bystanders shouted "Noo durr." When anyone absconds from his creditors he is said to have "Run his country." The moon is often called the "parish lantern;" and about Antrobus rain is spoken of as "parish water." "Patch and dautch" is an idiom in use at Kelsall, meaning to strive hard. "Eh! missis, how oo'l 'patch an' dautch' an' oo'l powler for them childer." I do not know the meaning of "dautch;" I should scarcely think it has any particular meaning, but is a sort of reduplication of patch, just as "inch" is merely a reduplication of "pinch" in the parallel phrase to "inch and pinch." About Wilmalow the expression "turning and typing" is equivalent to contriving, so as to make things fit "To peck for one's self" is an idiom which means to gain one's own livelihood." A father complained to me one day how his grown-up son still lived upon him, and added "It's toime he pecked for hisself; o! peck for moisel." There are two curious idioms used to describe the yellow, sickly appearance so often observed in young oats when they cease to draw nutriment from the seed, and begin to feed from the soil. It is then said that they are "pining for their mother," or that they are "being weaned;" and these expressions, strange to say, actually describe the physiological changes that are taking place in the plant. To "put the peg in" is an idiom which means to put a veto upon anything, or to cut off supplies. When a shopkeeper will trust no more he "puts the peg in." The expression has its origin in the method adopted to fasten an ordinary thumb-latch which can be opened from the outside; or most

likely it had its origin long before the thumb-latches became common, when the latch was opened from the outside by means of a piece of string, as I have already described; or by a round hole cut through the door just under the latch through which the finger was inserted in order to raise the latch. In any case the latch could be effectually locked by simply putting a peg of wood above it in the "carry-latch" or square staple which fixes the latch in its place. To be undecided, or to shilly-shally, is expressed by the idiom "Shaffling and haffling." "Oo's shafflin' and haffin' an' conna tell whether oo'll give up th' lond or not." "To put the shoulder out" is a curious idiom which I have heard in Runcorn, meaning to take offence. I suppose it refers to the habit which is so common in children of sticking one shoulder forward when anything displeases them. The occasion on which I heard it was this: A conversation in the street between a woman and the driver of a coal-dealer's cart. It appeared that the woman had bought coals cheaper from someone else, and that the original coal dealer was aggrieved thereby. The woman finished her harangue by observing, "there's plenty o' coals for less money, an' what'll pee one 'll pee another; he's no need to put his shoother ite abite his coal." "St. Peter's Needle" is a strange metaphor equivalent to any serious misfortune. I heard the expression at Norton, when a man who had become bankrupt, and had been sold up, was described as having gone through "St. Peter's Needle." To "Summer and Winter" a person is to have known him sufficiently long to test his character or disposition under all circumstances. An extremely small matter, that which is next to nothing, is described as "a thing or nothing." "To-morrow come never" means an indefinite time. "A Wheelbarrow Farmer" is a very small farmer who only rents an acre or two of land. He is supposed to wheel his manure on to his land in barrow loads instead of carting it. At Wrenbury last summer, I met with one of these men, who told me, "Uz wheelbarrow farmers pays more rent than big farmers, and we're obliged to grow twice as much on us land;" which I know to be true, and I have a great respect for wheelbarrow farmers. They are very important members of an agricultural community, not only because they raise on their small holdings a great deal of such produce as eggs, poultry, fruit, &c., which the "gradely" farmer thinks a little beneath his notice; but these small wheelbarrow farms have a great tendency to elevate not only the condition but the character of the labourers who occupy them. "Wun up," literally wound up, is used metaphorically to express being "ready for action." Thus a countryman being asked to sing will excuse himself on the plea of not yet being "wun up," if he has only had one glass. After another glass or two he will have more confidence in himself, and will then consider himself sufficiently "wun up" to respond to the call.

And now it is time my lecture was "wun up;" and in winding it up I can only express a hope that I may have been able to bring some new matter before you, or that I may have been fortunate enough to throw some new and interesting light upon an old subject.

J. M.

OLD PLAY BILLS OF STOCKPORT.

I.

Herewith I forward you a copy of an old playbill as published in Stockport sixty years ago. I should be glad to know where the theatre would be at this time; if some correspondent could tell us it would be of interest to many besides

THEMPIAN.

[COPY.]

THEATRE, STOCKPORT.

**M**R HOWARD, Manager of the Theatre Royal, Lancaster, &c., with all due deference to the Ladies and Gentlemen of Stockport and its Vicinity, respectfully solicits their patronage; and assures them, that every exertion shall be made in the production of Pieces and Performers, that may contribute to their amusement.

*For the Benefit of Miss S. BOOTH,*

And the last Night of her Performing this Season,  
*This present FRIDAY Evening, October 18th, 1822,*

Will be presented the new Piece of

THE LADY AND THE DEVIL.

Zephyrina (with the original Song), Miss S. Booth.

*A Comic Song by Mr Hall called "The Ladies' Chit Chat."*

After which, the admired Farce of

IS HE JEALOUS?

Harriet (as a disguised Fop), Miss S. BOOTH.

To conclude with the Farce of

THE SPOILED CHILD.

Little Pickle (the Spoil'd Child) Miss S. BOOTH.

In which she will introduce the Songs of

"Since then I'm doom'd," "I'm a brisk and sprightly

Lad," "The Sailor Boy capering Ashore," and

DANCE HER CELEBRATED HORNPIPE.

Doors to be opened at Six, and the Performance to commence at Seven o'clock.—Boxes 3s, Pit 2s, Gallery

1s.—Tickets to be had of Miss S Booth, at the Warren-Bulkeley Arms Inn; and at the Advertiser Office, where Places for the Boxes may be taken.

On Monday, the Play of "The Castle Spectre," with "The Innkeeper's Daughter:" the parts of Angela, and Mary, by Mrs HOWARD, from the Royal Coburg Theatre.

NOTES ON APRIL.

April is derived from *Aperire*, to open, because in this month the whole business of creation seems to be alive and active. The sun enters Taurus, the Bull, on the 20th. In the first week common lodging-houses must be whitewashed; dividends due on consols and India Bonds; 3rd, quarter sessions held this week; 4th, returns of assessed taxes are made this day, notice of any decrease or alteration should be given on or before the 4th, or the charge will be continued for another year; 5th, dividends due on bank stock, £3 per cent.; 10th, fire insurances must be paid; 15th, newly-elected guardians enter on duties; 23rd, St. George's Day. It is mostly a genial month, but if unsettled a hot summer usually follows.

Wilmalow.

J. G.

Queries.

**BOROUGH BOUNDS.**—Will some correspondent to "Notes and Queries" kindly say how long it is since the borough boundary was walked, who was Mayor, what are the objects of it, and who are supposed to form the party who walk it?

SUBSCRIBER.

**STOCKPORT CLOCKMAKERS—STRINGER.**—Can any correspondent oblige me by giving the years during which a Mr Stringer was a clockmaker in Stockport? I have reason to expect to find that he was there about the middle of last century, and perhaps earlier.

WM. NORBURY.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1886.

Notes.

BORDERLAND.

II.

Tunstead is the name of a farm situated about half a mile to the east of the large and picturesque reservoir made for the storage of water to supply the Peak Forest canal. It occupies the valley

lying between Whaley Bridge and Chapel-en-le-Frith, and is a conspicuous object from the Midland and London and North-Western Railways. The word "Tunstead" of Anglo-Saxon origin, signifying a fortified place, is suggestive of a habitation of great antiquity. The house was rebuilt about a century ago, and, in its present form, is a comfortable stone-built farmhouse, one portion being separated,



and occupied by a sub-tenant. It is surrounded by the usual outbuildings found on a dairy farm. The occupier, Mr Lomas, is a favourable specimen of his class. Quiet and simple in his manner, there is a certain impressive directness in his statements which invites confidence. His courtesy to a stranger, and the surrender of a portion of his time to one who had no claim at all upon him, are gratefully remembered. With no better introduction than that a former neighbour had been in the employment of the visitor many years ago, and that such neighbour, now dead, had related strange stories of what had taken place at Tunstead, Mr Lomas good-naturedly submitted himself to a pretty sharp fire of questions.

To many of your readers it will be known that Tunstead is believed by multitudes of persons, to be the scene of strange and unexplained disturbances, and that they are connected in some way with a skull which is preserved in the house. Whatever disasters occur in the district are popularly attributed to the malign influence of the spirit once related to the skull, which resents any changes that have not received its sanction.

The slipping down into the valley of the Goyt, of the ground, on which part of the Midland railway was made, which occasioned the adoption of a detour at (great cost,) confirmed the superstition, and the collapsing of part of the end of one of the tunnels nearer to Buxton, may have had a like tendency.

The skull has ever passed by the name of "Dickie." The following extract from a lengthy production by Samuel Laycock refers to these incidents :—

Neaw, Dickie, be quiet wi' thee, lad,  
 An' let navvies and railways a be ;  
 Mon, tha shouldn't do soa—it's too bad,  
 What harm are they doin' to thee?  
 Deed folk shouldn't meddle at o',  
 But leov o' these matters to th' wick ;  
 They'll see they're done gradely, aw know—  
 Does t' yer what aw say to thee, Dick ?  
 Neaw dunnot goo speil 'em i' th' dark,  
 What's cost soa mich labber and thowt ;  
 Iv tha'll let 'em goa on wi' ther wark,  
 Tha shall ride deawn to Buxton for neawt.

Mr Lomas was good enough to send for the skull for inspection, from its situation on the window bottom of the chamber immediately over the kitchen. It proved to be a very imperfect affair, and consists only of three bones

of a human skull, the two parietal bones and the occipital bone, which had become separated at the sutures. They were easily fitted together, and evidently formed parts of the same skeleton. They formed the greater part of the dome of the skull, but the front portion was wanting. The occipital bone was easily recognisable by the large aperture, through which the spinal cord had passed. A small portion of the bone on the line of junction of the two parietal bones was absent, and tradition asserts that this gap indicates where the wound was inflicted which caused death. The bones were dark brown in colour, from which, and their separation, it would seem that they had lain in the earth for some time. They possessed a rough polish from frequent handling.

Mr Lomas stated that he had resided on the farm for nearer thirty years than twenty, and during the whole of that period, inexplicable noises were heard more or less frequently; also it was an accepted tradition that such disturbances had existed from time immemorial. They were supposed to be connected with the skull, or rather the spirit which formerly owned it. The skull had been preserved on the farm from remote times. There were innumerable stories afloat, mostly he believed without foundation; they were, however, the outcome and exaggeration of certain curious matters undoubtedly true. The manifestations chiefly consisted of noises heard during the night, and they varied in intensity from gentle tappings to clatterings of the most pronounced character, "till you would think they were pulling the place down." They were generally traceable to one of three circumstances, the presence of strangers, some emergency, especially when the attention of Mr Lomas was required, or to an impending death. The aversion of the spirit to the presence of strangers sometimes leads to inconvenience during the time of hay harvest, when it is needful to lodge haymakers in the outbuildings. On one occasion two men were so alarmed during the night that they made a run for it, and did not stop until they reached the village ale-house some distance away. They might there find spirits less noisy perhaps, but to say the least, equally subtle and pernicious. On another occasion three Irishmen, who were employed on the farm for the first time, inquired from the farmer on the morning after their first night's experience if there were ghosts about, "for never a wink of sleep had we all night." The exact word used was not "never," but it was composed of the same number of letters. "Sure, when we were in the loft, the forks and the hay-rakes were clattering

about, and the scythes were whetting themselves, and when me and the two other boys went down to them they were all still, but they set to work as wild as ever after we left; and when the half of us went up, and the other half stayed below, sure enough the shindy was continued in the stable." The inconvenience from the noise when strangers are lawfully present is more than compensated for, by the sense of security enjoyed from the watchfulness of Dickie should strangers present themselves on some unlawful errand. During the lambing season, or when a cow is taken ill, or about to calve during the night, the call is so implicitly to be relied upon, that Mr Lomas, on being awake by the noise (usually three clear taps on the window), rises at once, dresses, and proceeds to his live stock without a suspicion of being misled. These weird manifestations are therefore not regarded with aversion, but are welcomed as a substantial advantage. When the death of a member of the family is imminent, the warning is not omitted, and sometimes it takes a much more impressive, but still innocent form. On one occasion when a daughter was lying in bed dangerously ill, and Mr Lomas in the evening was sitting in the kitchen, its only other occupant being the baby in the cradle, he heard someone come down the stairs step by step, and saw a figure, which he thought was that of one of the servants, pass close between his chair and the fire, proceed to the cradle, and stoop over it. He told her not to disturb the child, as he would carry it up to bed. The figure of the "young lady" on being addressed instantly vanished. The kitchen at the time was lighted by a candle which stood upon the table. The daughter died. This was the only occasion on which he saw the young lady, but she has not unfrequently been seen by the farm servants, or, at any rate, such is their statement. He is of opinion that some persons are more able to perceive the figure than others. It may be remarked that although the name given to the skull is suggestive of a masculine ownership, tradition requires us to accept it as that of a young lady who was murdered on the farm. Another manifestation is that of a spectral dog; which is said to be seen frequently near the bridge spanning the stream which drains the valley. The writer purposely walked alone near to the place late on a moonlight night, and established a sharp look-out for the spectral hound, but without success. An old woman recently died at the advanced age of ninety-five. In her youth she had been one of the maids at Tunstead, and she remembered the time when it was determined to put an

end to the disturbances by burying the skull in the churchyard at Chapel-en-le Frith. But Dickie seems to be as decidedly averse to consecrated ground as a late sister of James Mellor, and it soon became abundantly manifest that the presence of the skull was not necessary to the production of noises, and the old lady was wont to describe her seeing the three bones brought back to Tunstead in a basket. It is not a long time since some visitors purloined the skull unknown to Mr Lomas, and took it with them to Disley. The farmer was not long left in ignorance of the sacrilegious theft, for the uproar was scarcely endurable. The appropriator fared no better, for the confusion at Disley was still worse confounded, and he was thankful to send the fragments home again. They did not, however, reach Tunstead until after a second day, and they had thus the opportunity of favouring another household with a benefit night. The power of producing manifestations in two places some miles apart, on the same occasion, or possibly in rapid succession, is a feature in the case worthy of attention. The noises have perhaps not been heard quite so frequently of late as in former years.

Such in substance is the account which the farmer was good enough to permit to be extracted from him. Mrs Lomas confirmed the narrative.

I cannot tell how the truth may be,  
I say the tale as 'twas said to me.

In a former age such a story would be accepted greedily, and lose nothing in its passage from mouth to mouth. A more sceptical age followed, when such narratives were summarily discarded as old wives' fables; unreasoning scepticism followed unreasoning credulity. We are now arriving at a time when the evidence for accounts of this kind is carefully examined without the bias of a foregone conclusion; and such bodies of learned men trained in the art of investigation, as compose the committee of the Psychical Society of London, enter upon the investigation in a right temper.

In the esoteric Buddhism revealed to the western civilization by Mr Sinnett, we find a suggestion as to the relative frequency of "astral" manifestations in the case of persons who have left the world by violent deaths, which is worthy of notice. The eastern philosophers assert that the complete or perfect man would be resolvable into seven elements, of which the body is the lowest and spirit is the highest. In the natural process which we term death, the elements which went to form the being as it existed here, are resolved and

go their several ways, the body being entirely done with, and left to resolve itself into its chemical constituents. In Esoteric Buddhism (p. 100), Mr Sinnett proceeds :—

So far, we have been examining the normal course of events when people die in a natural manner. But an abnormal death will lead to abnormal consequences. Thus, in the case of persons committing suicide, and in that of persons killed by sudden accident, results ensue which differ widely from those following natural deaths. A thoughtful consideration of such cases must show indeed that in a world governed by rule and law by affinities working out their regular effects in that deliberate way which nature favours, the case of a person dying a sudden death at a time when all his principles are firmly united and ready to hold together for twenty, forty, or sixty years, whatever the natural remainder of his life would be, must surely be something different from that of a person who by natural processes of decay finds himself, when the vital machine stops, readily separable into his various principles, each prepared to travel their separate ways. Nature, always fertile in analogies, at once illustrates the idea by showing us a ripe and an unripe fruit. From out of the first the inner stone will come away as cleanly and as easily as a hand from a glove, whilst from the unripe fruit the stone can only be torn with difficulty, half the pulp clinging to its surface. Now, in the case of the sudden accidental death, or of the suicide, the stone has to be torn from the unripe fruit. There is no question here about the moral blame which may attach to it, but that is a question of Karma which will follow the person concerned into the next rebirth; like any other Karma, and has nothing to do with the immediate difficulty such person may find in getting himself thoroughly and wholesomely dead. This difficulty is manifested just the same, whether a person kills himself, or is killed in the heroic discharge of his duty, or dies the victim of an accident over which he has no control whatever.

The mystery which shrouds the life which is to follow or to continue this, is so profound that it cannot be pierced. Human vision is powerless to penetrate the thick veil, and few there are who will admit the possibility of catching even a brief glimpse of that which lies beyond, by the occasional flutter of its border or tremble of its fringes.

The borderland, however, dear reader, is not distant from any of us, and is already very nearly approached by many. Indeed, some who were pleased to read this series of articles as they have appeared from week to week, and several from whom some of the facts were obtained, have stepped over the dividing line. May we all cross

the boundary with a firm step. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me."

Wilmslow.

ALFRED FRYER.

## THE LIFE OF SAMUEL EATON.

### I.

Samuel Eaton, the eminent Puritan preacher and controversialist, and the apostle of independency in Lancashire and Cheshire, was born in the year 1597. The place of his birth is a matter of some uncertainty. Anthony à Wood states, "on the authority of some of his relations," that this event took place in the village of Crowley, in the parish of Great Budworth, near Northwich, of which place his father, the Rev. Richard Eaton, was the vicar, as his grandfather had also been before him. Richard Eaton, the father, had previously held the positions of vicar of Stony Stratford, and of Holy Trinity Church, Coventry. The Eatons were a family of property in Great Budworth, where they had possessed an estate called "The Pole" for a considerable period. According to contemporary writers, they were known as an old Puritan family of the neighbourhood, and their influence in the cause of Protestantism, we are told, was long and continued.

As the name of Theophilus, the elder brother of Samuel, will appear several times during the course of our inquiry, a few words respecting him will be of interest here. He was born at Stony Stratford. He was engaged as "an East country merchant," and for about three years represented Charles the First at the Court of Denmark. In 1634 he was employed by the Fellowship of English merchants to negotiate upon the regulations for selling foreign cloth in Poland. Returning home he continued several years in London as a merchant of "great business and reputation." In 1637 he emigrated to America, along with his son-in-law, Edward Hopkins, the Rev. John Davenport, and "a great retinue of acquaintance and followers." The following year, as we shall see, the emigrants founded the colony of New Haven in Connecticut. Theophilus Eaton was appointed the first governor, and held the position until his death, 7th January, 1657-8.

He was a person of strict virtue and purity, facetious and pleasant in conversation, but always grave upon proper occasion. He was very charitable to the poor, and easy of access by the meanest persons, but always maintained the dignity of his character as a magistrate. (1)

Samuel Eaton was possibly very early made acquainted with the religious persecution of the times, for we are told, though lacking authority, that his father suffered much for his conscientious objections to the first "Book of Sports." He was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took his B.A.

1. Neal's "History of New England," p. 299.

degree in 1624, and proceeded M.A. four years later.

He took orders according to the Church of England, but having been Puritanically inclined, he did dissent in some particulars relating to the ceremonies thereof. (2)

Being a man of spirit, he at once plunged with vigour into the conflict then raging betwixt Episcopalianism and Puritanism. In 1627 a scheme was devised for establishing a system of lectures or afternoon sermons in the various market towns of the country, and for providing a fund for the maintenance of the lecturers.

These lecturers were chiefly Puritans, who, not being satisfied with a full Conformity, so as to take upon them a Cure of Souls, only preached in the Afternoons, being chosen and maintained by the People. They were strict Calvinists, warm and affectionate Preachers, and distinguished themselves by a religious observance of the Lord's Day, by a bold opposition to Popery and the new Ceremonies, and by an uncommon Severity of Life. (3)

Bishop Laud held these men in great dread, and considered their prayers and preaching most dangerous to the State, because they awakened the people's dissatisfaction. (4) He consequently put his foot upon the movement, and confiscated the property of the promoters. He was notable, however, at once to entirely suppress it. In some parts of the country, and notably in Cheshire, the lectures were continued, and as a writer of the time puts it:—

The ministers had their glorious monthly exercises at Northwich, Nantwich, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Bowden, Frodsham, Budworth, Torporley, Tarvin, Ince, Motteram, &c.; and solemn assemblies, besides their blessed Sabbaths, frequented by sundry of the renowned gentry and very many well-disposed people, whereby they purchased to themselves a good degree in Christianity. (5)

Samuel Eaton was one of the local leaders in this system. After an existence of about six years it was completely crushed, and most of the principals fined, imprisoned, or exiled.

Eaton was first beneficed as Rector of West Kirby, in the Hundred of Wirral, in which neighbourhood he possessed some property. He at once commenced to propound unsavoury doctrines from his pulpit, and he was with equal promptitude suspended from his living by Bishop Bridgeman in 1631. Writing fourteen years later, he thus speaks of this portion of his life:—

For ourselves, when we first entered the ministry, we were both of us conformable in judgment, and sometimes, though very rarely, in practice. But we have bewailed and publicly testified our repentance, both before and since the times of this present Parliament. The one of us renounced it, and was therefore suspended by the Bishop of Chester fourteen years ago, and was afterwards, about thirteen years since, expelled from his habitation. (6)

2. Athenæ Oxon., III., 672.

3. Neal's "History of the Puritans," II., 207.

4. Ibid.

5. Paget's "Defence of Church Government" (preface).

6. "A Defence of Sundry Positions, &c.," by Samuel Eaton and Timothy Taylor (preface).

On being thus driven from his home and his people, Eaton went up to London, in all probability to take refuge with his brother. Here, however, he very soon became connected with John Lathorp, who had succeeded Henry Jacob in the charge of the first Independent or Brownist Church. Lathorp and Eaton ultimately became associated in the charge of the voluntary Christian societies of the Metropolis.

The oppressive measures of Laud and his coadjutors were now at their height. Time would not permit us to dwell upon the clergymen and their people who ventured to differ from the authorities in principle, or in regard to "the Romish fopperies," as Bishop Kennet termed them, that were being pushed into prominence and forced upon an unwilling people. The peculiar body of worshippers to whom I have just referred were, we are told, often interrupted by violence, and compelled to move from place to place to avoid detection. They were forced to meet very early in the morning, and continued together until night. (7) For a time even Laud was baffled by their intrepidity and firmness. At length, however, they were discovered at a midnight meeting by one Tomlinson, the Bishop's pursuivant, on April 29th, 1633, at the house of Mr Humphrey Barnet, a brewer's clerk in Blackfriars. Eaton, along with 23 others (including Lathorp), were carried into gaol. (8) On being brought before the Court of High Commission the prisoners refused to swear, and were sent back into confinement. (9) Here, however, they turned their opportunities to the best advantage, and endeavoured to convert their fellow prisoners to their own way. In the following petition to Laud, Samuel Eaton is actually charged with the crime of preaching to them:—

August, 1633. |

To the most Reverend Father in God, William, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, his grace, Primate and Metropolitan of all England.

Humbly sheweth:—The most humble petition of Francis Tucker, Bachelor of Divinity, and prisoner in Newgate for debt. That whereas there is one Samuel Eaton, prisoner in Newgate, committed by your grace for a schismatical and dangerous fellow, that the said Eaton hath held divers conventicles within the said gaol, some whereof hath been to the number of seventy persons or more, and that he was permitted by the said keeper openly and publicly to preach unto them; and that the said Eaton hath oftentimes affirmed in his said sermons that baptism was the doctrine of devils, and its original was an institution from the devil; and oftentimes he would rail against your grace, affirming that all bishops were heretics, blasphemers, and anti-Christian. That the said keeper, having notice hereof by the petitioner, who desired him to be a means that these great resorts and conventicles might be prevented, and that he would reprove the said Eaton for the same, and remove him to

7. See Waddington's "Cong. History," II., 272.

8. Neal's "History of the Puritans," II., 391.

9. For full account of the proceedings *vide* Waddington, II., pp. 273-278.

some other place of the prison. That, hereupon, the said keeper, in a disdainful manner, replied that the petitioner should meddle with what he had to do, and if he did dislike the said Eaton and his conventicles, he would move the petitioner into some worse place of the prison. That at this time there was a conventicle of sixty persons or more; that the said keeper coming into the room where the conventicle was, and the said Eaton preaching unto them and maintaining dangerous opinions, having viewed the said assembly, he said there was a very fair and goodly company; and staying there some season, departed without any distaste thereat, to the great encouragement of the said Eaton and the said persons to frequent the said place. That the said keeper had a strict charge from the said commission to have a special care of the said Eaton; and that since the said preacher hath several times permitted him to go abroad to preach to conventicles appointed by him, the said Eaton. That daily there doth resort to the said Eaton much people to hear him preach. That the petitioner reproving the said keeper for the said contempt, he thereupon abused him with uncivil language, and further, caused the said Eaton to abuse the petitioner, not only with most abusive words, but also with blows. (10)

Woodley.

JAMES COCKS.

(To be continued.)

## Replies.

### STOCKPORT CLOCKMAKERS.—STRINGER.

Mr William Norbury does not give any clue as to the Christian name of the clockmaker Stringer, but I may say that the name has for more than a century-and-a-

half been a local one, and it would probably be one of the earliest mentioned in the registers Parish Church of Stockport in 1708, who was the clockmaker. Another entry relating to the same family occurs in 1726. It is believed they came from Gill Bent or Stockport-Etchells. An old document to which I have had access, refers to a George Stringer as residing in the Hillgate about the latter date. I may further say that John and Thomas Stringer, who were, I believe, retired grocers or tradesmen in a good position, resided at the Mansion House, Stockport, now the Conservative Club, High-street. A nephew of theirs, John Stringer, of Newbridge-lane Mills, was formerly occupier of the fields now used as Vernon Park, but then locally known as Stringer's fields, and the weir below as Stringer's weir. C.T.

### THE MURDER OF WILLIAM WOOD AT DISLEY IN 1823.

For the information of the writer of the above article in a recent number, I beg to tender the following information relating to one of the men concerned:—

In the grave yard of St. James's Church, George-street, Manchester, is a gravestone with the following:—

Sacred to the memory of  
Joseph Dale, who died April 21st,  
1824, aged 19 years.

Prepare to meet thy God, for it is but a step between thee and Death.

At the bottom is "Thomas Keeling." The Rev. Mr Keeling was the minister who attended upon Dale previous to his execution. J. OWEN.

~~~~~  
SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT SIXTY YEARS AGO.

VI.

After the collapse of Messrs Brown and Powell, the Grove Mills, Heaton-lane, fell into the hands of the directors of a local bank. Subsequently purchased by Mr Michael Newton, they were let to Messrs James Marshall and Sons. They were worked by them with great regularity up to the disastrous cotton famine caused by the American civil war. During this period the Messrs Marshall made some disastrous speculations, and the firm, which had been in existence over forty

years, came to a sudden stop. These unfortunate Grove Mills again stood idle for a time. The next tenant was Mr David Bowlas, under the title of David Bowlas and Co., the firm comprising Mr Bowlas, his son, and Mr M. Dickie, his son-in-law. Mr Bowlas was a very shrewd person, energetic, and possessed rare business qualifications. At one time he was a head manufacturer. In this branch of industry he prospered amazingly. He erected a large cotton mill, a house for himself and family to dwell in, and a number of cottages for his workpeople near the canal side in Reddish. Mr Bowlas also purchased the White Lion Saw Mill, the foundry adjoining, and the two shops in the Underbank now tenanted by Messrs Cohoon and Nield, once the property of Mr Scott, brass and iron founder. Mr Bowlas worked the Grove

10. Waddington's "Cong. History, 1537-1700," p. 279.

Mills with great regularity and apparent success for about ten years prior to his death. During this time his hands were getting as much wage as any mill hands in the town, if not more. After the death of Mr David Bowles there came several successive years of bad trade. During these years the firm were unfortunately largely extending their works. The bad trade and extension together brought on a sudden collapse, and these mills, with others, also came to a sudden standstill, never to start again as cotton mills. The Grove Mills have been pulled down. On the site now stands Mr Hollingdrake's foundry and a row of elegant shops.

The White Lion Yard Mill is now held by Messrs Henry Faulder and Co. as a portion of their extensive fruit preserving and marmalade manufactory. The Park Mill was held by the Grove Mill firm, but never thoroughly started, excepting another portion which has been pulled down. Opposite the Grove Mill, and adjoining the back of the Woodman Inn in Brook-street, was a cotton mill running full time during Mr Hardy's mayoralty. This mill was worked by Mr Buckley, and prepared rovings for the numerous jenny spinners which were in this locality. This mill was burned down about the year 1831. At the top of this street, on the site covered by the late Mr Hulme's coach establishment, stood a machine shop, which was burned down in the year 1825. Adjoining this machine shop was a block of buildings called Newton's Whim. I have no knowledge who this Newton was, but of all the buildings I ever saw these appeared to me to be the most whimsical. These buildings were built on the slope of the hill, and had a frontage in Bridgefield, and another in what is now called Stewart-street. The entrance to this whim from Bridgefield was through a narrow entry. On each side of this entry were doors admitting to small dwellings. When we had got through this passage we entered a kind of court yard, with dwellings all around. From this court yard ascended a flight of stone steps, which led on to a landing. Here were dwellings again. From this landing we entered another entry, which led into Stewart-street. I had an uncle who lived some years and died in one of these dwellings on the landing. The slope of the hill from Newton's Whim to where now is the Wellington-road (in the year 1833) was covered with small gardens, the principal product being potatoes. A path led from here across some rugged ground to Hope Hill. A high hedge bordered one portion of the footpath; beyond this hedge was Crowther's fields and dam. Opposite the machine shop before mentioned was a small cotton mill, nestling under the gable end of Mr Crowther's large mill. This small mill was worked by a Mr Ashton, where he prepared rooms for his jenny factory in Union-road, the premises now held by Mr William Hyde, comprising shops and furnished rooms.

Mr Crowther's mill was one of the oldest mills in Stockport. It was originally a silk mill. In the year 1833 it was fully occupied as a cotton mill. This mill was comprised of two wings. One ran by the north side of Stewart-street; the other was joined to the west end of the former and took a northerly direction towards the present recreation ground. The engine-house was at the north end of this wing, and Mr Crowther's mansion stood on the high ground adjoining the engine-house. This mill at one time was turned by a water wheel; the water turning it proceeded from the Stitch Brook. As before stated, there were two mouths to this brook; they diverged at the Bower House fold, one stream taking a westerly direction to the Hope-hill Mill. The other stream was conveyed by a small canal round the Bower House estate. It then took an easterly direction, went by the south end of the Heaton Norris Railway Station; it then took a straight course by the gable end of Mr Hudson's house (the Railway Inn), and emptied itself into a large reservoir in Crowther's fields. I have a cause to remember this water course. During the formation of the Wellington-road in the year 1824, myself and a brother jenny piecer went one dinner hour to this water course to try to catch some "jack sharps" (a very small fish). Whilst engaged with my stick, thread, crooked pin, and worm, I had the misfortune to fall into this sluice. I believe I should have been drowned had it not been for the cry which my companion raised, which caused some of those navvies engaged on the Wellington-road to come to my assistance and drag me out of the water.

Crowther's dam was a favourite place where men and youths frequently went to practice swimming, and many whom I knew have been drowned whilst bathing here. This dam was filled up, the surrounding ground made level, and the roadways surrounding the recreation ground made by the distressed cotton operatives during the cotton famine. I never (to my knowledge) saw Mr Crowther, but I often saw two elderly ladies walking in the garden surrounding their mansion and in the adjacent fields, who were sisters to Mr Crowther. Some of the members of this old Stockport family went to reside in London, and died there, and a number of them are interred in the St. Peter's Churchyard, Stockport.

Crowther's mill was last worked by Mr Thomas Stewart. I have been told that Thomas Stewart when a young man followed the profession of a mountebank, and travelled from town to town. He subsequently came to Stockport and commenced cotton manufacturing in a portion of the Park Mills. Whilst he had his works in the Park Mill we often heard of disputes between him and his workpeople, and several strikes took place. Mr Stewart through some cause removed his machinery from the Park Mills, and brought it to Mr Crowther's old mill. He worked this

mill with great regularity, excepting a few strikes which took place, for many years, up to the deplorable cotton famine in the year 1862. This old mill was never worked much afterwards; Mr Stewart came to grief, and he died in the Stockport Workhouse, and had a pauper's burial. The Crowther mill was afterwards purchased by the Cheshire Lines Railway Co., and pulled down to make way for the railway. The bottom room of the portion of this mill fronting Stewart-street was a card-room, the windows of which were very low, and one pane in the centre could be opened to admit air. About the year 1833 a show with strolling players stood in the hollow near the mill. Two youths were going to the theatre one night when they saw the carder sat in one of these mill windows asleep. One of these youths said to the other, "Let's waken this fellow up." "Agreed," said the other youth. One of them then knocked violently against the window, which caused the carder to rub his eyes, and turn his face towards the street. The youth then made a pretence of talking to the carder, who opened the centre pane of the window and said, "Ah conna tell what tha ses, lad." The youth again muttered something which the carder did not understand. The carder then put his head through the window. As soon as he did this one of the youths got hold of the poor fellow's hair with both hands and commenced to pull it most violently, whilst the other youth gave him several slaps on the cheek. The outrage was a most dastardly one, but they had the man in their power and he was helpless. The offenders were never discovered, as they got mixed with the crowd in the theatre.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

(To be Continued.)

#### POWNAFFEE, WILMSLOW PARISH. THE TOWNSHIP RECORDS.

The following is a continuation of the records relating to this township as found in the old parish chest at Wilmslow:—

Com Centre

To the overseers of Pownall Fee in the said county,

We Jonathan Robinson and Robert Lingard, two of the churchwardens of the parish church of Stockport in the said county, and Thomas Swindells and John Heginbotham, overseers of the poor of Romeley in the said parish of Stockport, doe hereby certify, own, and acknowledge Edward Richardson together with Ann his wife, Elizabeth, Susanna, and Ann, their children to be inhabitants legally settled within our said township of Romeley, but for their better way of living are now come to inhabit within your township of Pownall Fee, &c., &c.

Given under our hands and seals this second day of August, Anno Dom. 1728.

Sealed, signed, and certified by the above churchwardens and overseers of the poore in the presence of

JOHN KELSALL,  
THOMAS GASKELL,  
THOMAS BRIDGE,  
SOLOMON HOLIFRED.

JONATHAN ROBINSON ○  
is  
ROBERT R. L. LINGARD ○  
marks  
THOMAS SWINDELLS ○  
JOHN HEGINBOTHAM ○

26 January, 1728-9,

Seen and allowed by us,

RICHARD ARDEKE,  
HENRY BRADSHAW,

The two last names are justices of the peace.

Also an indenture of apprenticeship, dated 21 September, 1728, whereby the overseers of Pownall Fee, William Hulme and James Kelsall, bind John Beck (?) alias Bredbury to John Bealey, of Fallowfield, "Lynnen Weaver." The premium is forty shillings, and the lad is to receive sixpence every year on "The feast of our blessed Lord and Saviour." The document is signed by the contracting parties, and witnessed by John Osborne and P. Wyatt, and countersigned and allowed by two justices,

J. DAVENPORT.

PETER DAVENPORT.

Also a bond given to the overseers of Pownall Fee by James Ward, Bartholomew Ward, and Robert Ward, each described as a yeoman of Pownall Fee, the condition of the obligation was such that whereas Mary Hamnet, of Pownall Fee, spinster, had given birth to a bastard child, of which the bounden, James Ward, was the reputed father, the said James Ward was to hold the said overseers William Hulme and James Kelsall from any costs, charges, or trouble in the maintenance or bringing up of the said bastard child, or be liable to forfeit the bond. Security was given by the above mentioned three Wards, who each sign the deed, which is witnessed by Samuel Short and William Shaw. Dated 28 October, 1728.

Indenture of apprenticeship, dated 11 November, 1728, between William Hulme and James Kelsall, overseers of Pownall Fee, of the first part, Hugh Pownall, of Wilmslow, of the second part, and James Wyatt, a poor boy of Pownall Fee aforesaid, of the third part, binding the said James Wyatt to the said Hugh Pownall for eight years, to learn, with moderate chastisement, if need be, the business of a farmer, his wages to be 6d a year in money, and suitable food and clothing. The premium was £3 5s.

The document is signed by the contracting parties. Witnessed by John Rawson and William Shaw, and counter signed by justices.

C. LEON,  
PETER DAVENPORT.

The next is rather a singular document, and as it is not a lengthy one we give it almost entire.—  
Com. Cestra.

To the Constables of Pownall Fee in the said county, and also to the Overseers of the Poor of Pownall Fee aforesaid.

Whereas complaint hath been made with us, Charles Legh and Peter Davenport, Esqr, two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace and Quor. in and for the said county by the Overseers of the Poor of Pownall Fee aforesaid, that they, the said overseers, have for several weeks last past paid the sum of eighteen pence per week to Elizabeth Brown, widow, a poor inhabitant of Pownall Fee aforesaid towards the better support and maintenance of herself and four small children, and that the said Elizabeth Brown is possessed of some small quantity of household goods of the value of forty shillings or thereabouts, and whereas the said overseers do still continue to pay such charges as aforesaid to the said widow and her children, and have besought us to grant this our warrant for seizing the said goods into their custody towards reimbursing part of the charge of the future maintenance of the said widow and her four children.

These are therefore to charge and require you the said constables and overseers, or any of you, forthwith on receipt hereof to seize and take into your custody all the said goods and yt you employ them towards the further subsistence and relief of the said Elizabeth Brown and her children. For the receipt and disbursement of the money arising by the goods aforesaid you are to be accountable to the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace for this County.

Given under our hands and seals this 31st of October, 1728.

C. LEGH.  
PETER DAVENPORT.

20 May, 1729.

Then John Hankinson, tenant att Nield's, and Robert Roylands, son to Isaac Roylands, should have brought in their accounts, but have not yett. I James Whittakers know ye have not above 4½d in their hands, they being collectors for ye land tax for last year. 0 0 4 2

Indenture dated 11 November, 1729, between George Lowther and Edward Deane, Overseers of the Poor of Pownall Fee, of the first part, Samuel Wyatt, yeoman, of Baguley, of the second part, and Samuel Brown, a poor boy of Pownall Fee. The boy was apprenticed to Wyatt for eight years to be well and truly taught, with due and moderate chastise-

ment if need be, the business and employ of a farmer. The overseers paid 20s premium, and Wyatt was to find the boy two suits of suitable clothing when his time was expired. The document was signed by the contracting parties and witnessed by Joseph Burgess and Robert Dodge, and countersigned by two justices.

C. LEIGH.  
PETER DAVENPORT.

February ye 2nd, 1729-30.

|                                                                                   | £  | s. | d. | q. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| For Repering Morley Bridge. Paid to Tho. Cash 10s, paid to John Roylen's 5s ..... | 00 | 15 | 00 | 0  |
| January 8.                                                                        |    |    |    |    |
| The first quarterly payment .....                                                 | 00 | 10 | 09 | 0  |
| Paid to pasingers .....                                                           | 00 | 01 | 04 | 0  |
| Paid for returning Duplica (duplicate) for windows .....                          | 00 | 01 | 06 | 0  |
| Paid the second quarterly payment .....                                           | 00 | 07 | 08 | 3  |
| Paid the third quarterly payment .....                                            | 00 | 09 | 04 | 1  |
| Paid the 4th quarterly payment and Trosey (?) money .....                         | 01 | 01 | 02 | 0  |
| Paid to James Kelsall for books for Joseph Hook .....                             | 00 | 02 | 00 | 0  |
| Spent upon the account of David Wood .....                                        | 00 | 00 | 10 | 0  |
| Spent on the jurors at the death of Jo. Wood .....                                | 00 | 01 | 00 | 0  |
| Spent at master yeat (?) .....                                                    | 00 | 00 | 06 | 0  |
| Paid James Kelsall for 3 books for myself .....                                   | 00 | 01 | 00 | 0  |
| For going to 6 month meetings .....                                               | 00 | 03 | 00 | 0  |
| Paid and spent at the Court Leet .....                                            | 00 | 02 | 02 | 0  |
| Spent on ye jurors at the crower's quest of John Chadwick .....                   | 00 | 01 | 00 | 0  |
| Pd. James Kelsall for writing Land tax Testmts .....                              | 00 | 2  | 0  | 0  |
|                                                                                   | 3  | 19 | 11 | 0  |

[Copy.]

Com. Cestra. We, Richard Royle, Mr Richard Jackson, and Thomas Starkey, churchwardens and overseers of the poor for the township of Ashley, within the parish of Bowdon, in the County aforesaid, do hereby own and acknowledge that Jonathan Bentley and his wife Sarah and their two sons George and Jonathan are inhabitants legally settled in our said township of Ashley, within the parish of Bowdon aforesaid, as witness our hands and seals this 24th day of February, 1729.

RICHARD ROYLE ○  
THOS. STARKY ○  
RICH. JACKSON ○

Signed sealed and acknowledged  
in the presence of  
RD. NEWALL,  
JO. BIRCH.

50958A



Seen and allowed by us, two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace and quorum in and for the sd. county the day and year above written.

THO. LEGH.  
W. BLACKBURN.

This is a true copy of the original document examined by us,  
Witness,  
JETHRO ALCOCK.

PETER TAYLOR,  
JOSEPH WALKER,

20 May, 1730.

Then Phillip Dale and Joseph Holt being constables for last year, and it appears they had nothing in their hands, as witness our hands when the had made their accounts .....

0 0 0

Examined by us,

J. WHITTAKERS,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
WM. HULME,  
THOMAS CASH,  
JOHN WORTHINGTON,

} Inhabitants.

12 November, 1730.

Then Jno. Coppock, for John Kelsall, of Within Tree, and Randle Pownall, for Henry Henshaw's, being constables for last year, made their accounts, and had in their hands £1 15s 2d, which said sum is paid into the present constable's hands.

1 15 2 0

Examined by us,

J. WHITTAKERS,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
THO. POTT,  
JOHN WORTHINGTON,  
ROBERT SMITH,  
EDWD. DEANE,  
THO. HEALD,

} Inhabitants.

20 May, 1730.

Then Phillip Dale and Joseph Holt, being collectors of ye Land tax for last yr., made their accounts, and it appeared Phillip Dale was out of pockett 6s, which was pd. him by ye overseer of ye poor, and have lodged their receipts in ye chest.

0 6 0 0

Examined by us,

J. WHITTAKERS,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
JON. HULME,  
EDWD. DEANE,  
THOMAS CASH,  
ROBERT SMITH,

} Inhabitants.

20 May, 1760.

Then James Whittakers made his accounts for being overseer of the Highways for Last year, and it ap-

pears nothing in hands.

0 0 0 0

As witness our hands.

Examined by us,

THOMAS CASH,  
PHILIP DALE,  
JOHN TAYLOR,

} Inhabitants.

Indenture of apprenticeship made 4 July, 1730, between Edward Deane and Robert Smith, overseers of the Poor of Pownall Fee, of the first part, George Royle, of Northerden, Taylor, of the second part, and Cooke Alcocke, a pauper, of Pownall Fee, of the third part. The premium was £1 15s. Signed and sealed by George Royle, but not any others of the contracting parties, although it is countersigned by two justices, C. LEIGH,

PETER DAVENPORT.

The signature of George Royle is

witnessed by GEORGE MILLNER,  
WILLIAM SHAW.

18 May, 1731.

Then Edward Deane and Jno. Coppock, being collectors of ye Land tax for last year, made their accounts and appears nothing in their hands, and lodged their accounts in ye chest.

0 0 0 0

Examined by us,

J. WHITTAKERS,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
THO. POTTS,  
AARON COPPOCK,  
PHILIP DALE,  
JOHN WORTHINGTON,  
HUGH WORTHINGTON,  
JOHN KELSALL,  
WILLIAM JENKINSON,

} Inhabitants.

14 June, 1731.

Then Daniel Burgess made his accounts for being overseer of ye highways in Morley for last year, and appears nothing in hands.

0 0 0 0

Examined by us,

J. WHITTAKERS,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
PHILIP DALE,  
THOMAS CASH,

} Inhabitants.

James Williams, of Etchells, in Parish of Northerden, yeoman, is bound in forty pounds. Whereas Susanna Tomlinson, spinster, daughter of Thomas Jenkinson, was lately brought to bed of a male bastard child, and hath affiliated the same upon Thomas Williamson, son of James Williamson, and whereas the above James Williamson, on behalf of his son, &c., has come to an agreement with Thomas Jenkinson, father of the said Susanna, touching the maintenance, support, and bringing up of the said male bastard child, &c., &c.

Up to this point there seems to have been simply a family arrangement between the fathers of the

young folks, but a foot note dated 30th September, 1741, is as follows :—

We the overseers of Pownall Fee doe own and hereby acknowledge to have this day had and received of and from the above bounden James Williamson all the money which would have been due at the full end of twelve years, together with twenty shillings at the end thereof for the further preferment of the within named bastard child. But in case the said child (which is alive) shall happen to dye before the end of the said twelve years, in such case such money as should have been due if this note had not been made shall be repaid back by the said overseers, or their successors, overseers of the poor of the said Pownall Fee, together with the said twenty shillings for his preferment.

JOHN BRAY.

The child did not live all the time, and therefore we have this endorsement, Nov. ye 22th, 1742.

Then Rd. of Sam Taylor and Nathan Pearson, ye sume four pounds five shillings in full of this within bond by me. £4 5s. JAMES WILLIAMSON.

One likes to meet with a man like old James Williamson, of Etchells-in-Northenden. He has something noble about him. His son gets into a scrape—has an illegitimate child fathered on him. He at once gives a bond to the girl's father for the maintenance of his son's child, and all seems to have gone on smoothly for ten years. Then the child gets into the hands of the overseers of Pownall Fee. Old James will not be bothered with them, so he pays them off in a lump sum up to the child's becoming of legal age for the pay to cease. He will be without their clack—and he does more; he gives them a pound to give to the lad at the end of the term: no niggard is he. But the child seems to have died, and then old James wants the balance due to him that he has overpaid, and he gets it, and writes the receipt himself, like a brave old man. The writing is tremulous, the spelling antiquated. Where was the son? He was living when the bond was given. If he lived on we hope he mended his ways and became a comfort to his noble old father.

Leigh.

WILLIAM NORBURY.

(To be continued.)

#### OLD PLAY BILLS OF STOCKPORT.

##### II.

Herewith I send you copy of another old bill of the play as announced. I may add that this was the second annual visit of Miss Fisher to Stockport, whose acting seemed to be much appreciated by the Stockport people :—

#### THEATRE, STOCKPORT.

MR HOWARD, with the utmost anxiety to please, has the pleasure to inform the Public, that h

has formed an engagement for THREE EVENINGS ONLY, with the inimitable

MISS CLARA FISHER,

being the last time she will appear in the Country before her opening at the Theatre Royal, Drury-Lane, where she is engaged for three years.

On MONDAY, October 28th, 1832,

Will be acted Colman's admired Comedy of the  
HEIR AT LAW.

Doctor Pangloss, by Miss CLARA FISHER.

Cicely Homespun, Mrs HOWARD.

After which,

THE ACTRESS OF ALL WORK:

In which Miss CLARA FISHER will sustain six different Characters.

Nights of Miss C. Fisher's performing, are MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY.

Box Plans of each Evening are open at the Advertiser Office, where Tickets may be had.

Doors to be opened at Six, and the Performance to commence at Seven o'clock.—Boxes 3s. Pit 2s. Gallery 1s.

On Tuesday, "The Busy Body;" Marplot, by Miss C. FISHER; with "The Spoil'd Child," Little Pickle Miss C. FISHER. On Wednesday, as will be expressed in the Bills of the day.

Although only announced for three nights, yet I find she was in Stockport on the Friday, when she was announced to take her farewell benefit, as follows :—

#### THEATRE, STOCKPORT.

MISS CLARA FISHER'S FAREWELL BENEFIT  
Being the last night of her appearance in the Country until after her engagement at Drury-Lane.

THIS present FRIDAY Evening, November 1st, 1832, the performance will commence with a Petit Piece, called

THE INVISIBLE GIRL,

The whole of which (with the exception of about a dozen lines) is spoken by Miss C. Fisher.

Captain Allclack, by Miss CLARA FISHER.

A COMIC SONG, by Mr HALL.

After which, the admired Melo-Drama of

THE BROKEN SWORD.

The Part of Myrtille by Miss CLARA FISHER.

The whole to conclude with (by particular desire) the  
Farce of

BOMBASTES FURIOSO.

General Bombastes, by Miss CLARA FISHER.

Doors to be open at Six, and the Performance to commence at Seven o'clock.—Boxes 3s. Pit 2s. Gallery 1s.

Tickets to be had of Miss CLARA FISHER, at Mrs THORNILEY's, Churchgate; and at the Advertiser Offices, where places for the Boxes may be taken.

THEATRIAN.

## STOCKPORT PARISH REGISTERS.

v.

30.—John sonne of Raffe Cowy of Bramhall.

MARRIED.

10.—Ottiwell Wood and Margery Swindella.

BURIED.

1.—Isabell daughter of John Arderne.

5.—Ellen daughter of Robte Bridge.

8.—An infant of Edward Royles of Stockport.

18.—John Hall of Lancashire.

18.—John Rowbothom of Northbury.

29.—Margret daughter of Raffe Didsbury.

30.—Hughe Hall of Bramhall.

30.—Robte Whittakers.

31.—The wyfe of John Davis *als* Horton.

## FEBRUARIE, 1586-7.

BAPTISED.

2.—Henry sonne of Henry Neeld.

2.—Willm sonne of Lawrence Hudson.

5.—Robte and George sonnes of Robte Cook.

6.—Joseph sonne of Robte Rocroft.

6.—Margret daughter of Richard Jones.

12.—Robte sonne of Raffe Bayley.

15.—Johan daughter of Hughe Hanley.

19.—Henry sonne of Roger Leigh.

24.—Anthony sonne of Robte Ridgway of Offerton.

24.—Alex. sonne of Henry Wyld of Denton.

25.—Margret daughter of Alex Hulme.

MARRIED.

13.—Willm Bale and Isabell Bennetson.

27.—John Mosse and Isabell Collier.

27.—Alex. Collier and Ellen Mosse.

28.—Robte Barret and Cycely Heald.

BURIED.

9.—Margery daughter of Thomas Bordman.

22.—The wyfe of Robte Shepley of Hyde.

25.—Robte Hall of the Hilgate in Stockport.

28.—Alex. Coope of Bramhall.

## MARCH, 1586-7.

BAPTISED.

5.—Geoffrey sonne of Reinold Bennetson.

6.—Anne daughter of Rondull Hulme of Offerton.

12.—Ellen daughter of Willm Hanley.

12.—Margret daughter of Thomas Hobson.

12.—Margery daughter of Thomas Burdsell.

18.—Katherine daughter of Thomas Cheetham.

17.—John sonne of Willm Leadbeater of Bramhall.

BURIED.

16.—Uxor Birron de Hilgate.

21.—Rondull Bickerstaffe of Stockport.

21.—A chylde of Willm Beacoms of Beacom.

24.—The wyfe of Thomas Nicholson of the Woodhall.

24.—Reinold Bennetson of Werneth.

24.—Uxor Bennetson de Harrison.

## MARCH, 1587.

BAPTISED.

30.—Johan daughter of Willm Brook of the Street-house-lane.

BURIED.

30.—The wyfe of Thomas Jackson of Brinnington.

## APRILL, 1587.

BAPTISED.

2.—Jane daughter of Robte Janny.

2.—Jane daughter of John Adshead also baptised.

3.—Johan daughter of Willm Cheetham.

5.—John sonne of Margery Walker.

9.—John sonne of John Grantham of Stockport.

9.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Daniell.

15.—John sonne of Thomas Bowerhouse.

16.—Robte sonne of Georg Wharaby curate of Gorton.

17.—Robte sonne of Christopher Barnes.

17.—Alex. sonne of Ottiwell Barton.

17.—Raffe sonne of Alex. Collier.

20.—Ales daughter of John Cleaton of Werneth.

25.—Margery daughter of Lawrence Taylor.

28.—ALEXANDER THE SONNE OF EDWARD TORRINTON, OF TORRINTON GENT WAS BAPTISED.

28.—Margery daughter of Peter Mather.

29.—Anne daughter of Peter Sydebothom of Bredbury.

29.—Nicholas and Ales the son and daughter of Georg Barret of Stockport.

29.—Isabell daughter of Margrett Wynnnington.

MARRIED.

24.—Humffrey Pickford and Ales Pickford.

BURIED.

1.—Thomas sonne of Robte Sydebothom.

1.—The wyfe of Henry Bennetson of Romiley.

5.—The wyfe of John Kirkdale of Stockport.

5.—The daughter of Henry Shawe of Hyde.

6.—frances Greene.

6.—Ales Taylor de Torkinton.

8.—An infant child of Willm Birches of Bramhall.

8.—Willm Houghe *senex*.

15.—Elizabeth Low of Denton.

16.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Daniell.

17.—The wyf of John Latham of Stockport.

19.—Ellen Collier of Stockport.

19.—Jane Hall of Stockport.

20.—The wyf of Alex. Robinson of Heaton.

26.—Henry Shepley of Hyde.

29.—Raffe sonne of Alexander Collier.

## MAIE, 1587.

BAPTISED.

14.—Elizabeth daughter of George Hall of Stockport.

17.—Dorothy daughter of Alex. Bowerhouse of Stockp.

18.—Anne daughter of Charles Sydebothom of Werneth.

21.—FRANCIS DAUGHTER OF RL. GERARD PARSON OF STOCKPORT.

23.—Katherine daughter of John Hadfield.

MARRIED.

18.—Thomas Booth and Elizabeth Swindells.

29.—John Kelsall and Ales Barlow.

BURIED.

2.—John Hobson of Lancashire.

10.—Johan Hurst of Stockport.

10.—A pore woman dyed at Weedley, buried.

11.—A chyld of James fells of Stockport.

15.—The wyf of Raffe Bennetson of Stockport.

21.—Margret daughter of Thomas Hobson of Levensam.

30.—The wyfe of Hughe Browne of Bramhall.

30.—Robte Thorniley of the Brigbwer.

JUNE, 1587.

BAPTISED.

4.—JOHN SONNE OF GEORGE REDISH OF REDISH GENT.

18.—Willm sonne of John Henshaw of Bramhall.

29.—Willm sonne of Rondull Wright of Pever.

29.—Raffe sonne of John Cheetham.

29.—Anne daughter of Rondull Thorniley.

BURIED.

4.—Richard Walker of Hyde.

6.—Richard Birch of Bramhall.

10.—Isabell daughter of George Elcocke of Heaton.

10.—John Bradley of Stockport.

11.—Margret daughter of Humffrey Davenport.

13.—John Bexweeke *als* Bakester parish clerk of Stockport.

15.—Johan daughter of Willm Bowker of Bramhall.

15.—John sonne of Margery Walker.

17.—Raffe Marsland of Stockport.

21.—An infant of Reinoide Bennetson.

24.—Edward sonne of Richard Shepley de Hyde.

JULIE, 1587.

BAPTISED.

5.—Margret daughter of Robte Hall.

16.—Roger sonne of Willm Sydebothom.

25.—Raffe son of Raffe Marsland of Stockport.

MARRIED.

5.—George Daniell and Ellen Burdsell.

BURIED.

3.—Thomas Barnes *als* Battersby.

6.—The wyf of Willm Leadebeater of Bramhall.

7.—A daughter of Raffe Bradleys.

21.—A daughter of Richard Jones of Redish.

22.—An infant of Leonard Harrison of the Cross more.

30.—Robte Tomlinson of Hyde.

AUGUST, 1587.

BAPTISED.

18.—John sonne of John Patrick.

18.—Margret daughter of Christopher Lowe.

30.—Raffe sonne of Raffe Lowe of Denton.

MARRIED.

13.—Willm Daniell and Jane Elcock.

BURIED.

1.—Raffe Low of Stockport.

3.—Ales Wakefield of Stockport.

4.—Thomas Low *als* Christerson of Denton.

5.—The wyf of John Willmson of Bramhall.

29.—An infant of one Piggots of Newarke.

SEPTEMBER, 1587.

BAPTISED.

6.—John sonne of Hughe Hall of Bramhall.

18.—Edmund son of Edmund Shaw of Northbury.

26.—Ellen daughter of Raffe Wych of Marple.

29.—Thomas sonne of John Roda.

BURIED.

2.—Owen Greenhill of Harrowhill-com-Midlessex.

5.—Willm Nicholson of Rediahe.

8.—Willm Woode of Marple.

11.—Thomas Hall.

13.—Johan wyfe of Raffe Wakefield.

20.—Willm Herod of Stockport.

21.—The daughter of Robte Hall of the Streothouse-lane.

25.—GEORGE WARREN OF POINTON GENT.

27.—An infant of Henry Wyles of Hyde.

29.—The wyf of Robte Nicholson of Rediah Bridg.

OCTOBER, 1587.

MARRIED.

2.—Rondull Herod and Ellen Cheetham.

29.—Ottywell Higgenbothom and Ellen Cottrell were married at Marple Chappell.

BURIED.

8.—A servant maide of Alex. Holmes of the bridge ende.

11.—Cycely Wych of Marple.

14.—Richard Nicholson and a daughter of George Barrets were buried.

20.—The wyfe of Roger Daniell of the Windlehurst.

22.—Raffe Wakefield of Stockport.

24.—The wyf of John Byrron of Stockport.

25.—Raffe Thumstone of Northbury.

26.—Ales daughter of Raffe Dickson of Stockport.

NOUEMBER, 1587.

BAPTISED.

3.—Margery daughter of Thomas Seele.

5.—Anne daughter of John Houghe of Stockport.

7.—Raffe sonne of Thomas Bardaley.

24.—Thomas sonne of John Birch of Bramhall.

30.—John sonne of Robte Smithe of Levensam.

## MARRIED.

6.—John Pickford and Elizabeth Leadbetter.

## BURIED.

- 7.—Margret daughter of James Dickson of Stockport.  
 7.—Ellen Ridge was also buried.  
 9.—Ales Taylor.  
 13.—The wyfe of Raffe Dickson of Northbury.  
 13.—An infant of Willm Daniells.  
 19.—A man found deade in Northbury brooke buried.  
 20.—The wyt of Otes Bradley.  
 21.—Hughe Hanley.  
 21.—Thomas Thorniley of Denton.  
 23.—The wyfe of John Becke of Stockport.  
 24.—The wyfe of John Baguley of Stockport.  
 24.—The daughter of Thomas Collier Pavor.  
 27.—Willm Chamlett of Stockport.

## DECEMBER, 1587.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Willm sonne of John Browne.  
 1.—Gervisse sonne of [blank].  
 10.—George sonne of George Talbott.  
 15.—Willm sonne of Reinolde Ashton.  
 17.—Willm sonne of George Whittakers.  
 17.—John sonne of George Blomiley.  
 22.—Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Holt.  
 23.—Ales daughter of Richard of Hyde.

## MARRIED.

13.—EDWARD VAWDREY GENT AND JANE HYDE DAUGHTER UNTO ROBERT HYDE OF NORTHEBURIE ESQUIER WERE MARRIED.

16.—Edward Tomlinson and Ales Thorniley.

## BURIED.

- 1.—A pore chylde dyed in Bredbury buried.  
 14.—JOHN WARREN OF POINTON ESQUIER.  
 14.—Uxor Arderne *vidua*.  
 15.—The wyfe of Willm Hunt of the Hilgate in Stockport.  
 15.—Willm sonne of Reinolde Ashton.  
 16.—John Bowerhouse of Stockport.  
 16.—The wyfe of Willm Richardson.  
 17.—A pore chylde died at Bancrofts in Stockport buried.  
 18.—Alexander Robinsone.  
 20.—The wyfe of Robte Oldham.  
 20.—Ales Ridgwaie.  
 23.—Nicholas Bickerstaffe.  
 26.—The wyfe of Richard Higham of Hyde.  
 26.—An infant of Reinolde of Ashton.  
 29.—frances Low Scholemr of Stockport.  
 32.—Margery daughter of Thomas Seale.

## JANUARIE, 1587.

## BAPTISED.

- 8.—Willm sonne of Raffe Hardy of Denton.  
 23.—Thomas sonne of John Jackson.  
 26.—Thomas sonne of Anne Daniell.

## MARRIED.

9.—Edmund Hall and Johan Henshaw.

## BURIED.

- 4.—The wyfe of Thomas Syddell.  
 5.—The wyfe of John Hudson.  
 5.—The wyfe of Willm Tomlinson.  
 7.—Ales Hibbert of Northbury.  
 8.—The wyfe of Nicholas Hibbert of Marple.  
 8.—The wyfe of John Potter of the Hilgate in Stockport.  
 9.—The wyfe of John Bradley of Stockport.  
 11.—The wyfe of Alexander Ashton of Hyde.  
 13.—The wyfe of John Bakester *als* Bexweek.  
 13.—John Shepley of Hyde.  
 13.—Nicholas Cheetham of Redishe.  
 13.—Ellen Foxley.  
 16.—Richard Nabbes of Stockport.  
 21.—The wyfe of Ambrose Cheetham of Adswood.  
 23.—John Cheetham of Denton.  
 25.—Elizabeth Holt of Bramhall.  
 26.—The wyfe of Robte Whittaker.  
 28.—The wyfe of John Bancroft.

## FEBRUARY, 1587.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Jane daughter of John Robinson.  
 2.—John sonne of Robt Hudson of Heaton.  
 2.—Anne daughter of Raffe Shepley.  
 8.—Margery daughter of George Brookshaw.  
 19.—Willm sonne of Thomas Rodes of Bramhall.  
 19.—Lawrence sonne of Willm Robothom.  
 20.—Ellen daughter of Willm Turner.  
 21.—Robte sonne of George Barlow.  
 24.—Raffe sonne of John Andrew.  
 24.—Ellen daughter of Robte Gee.  
 26.—Margret daughter of John Bowerhouse.  
 29.—Robte sonne of Willm Thorniley.

## MARRIED.

- 12.—Richard Adahead and Ellen Hurst.  
 20.—Edmund Wyld and Julyan [blank].  
 20.—Thomas Torkinton and Ales Mosley.

## BURIED.

- 1.—The wyt of Thomas Garnet of the Hilgate in Stockport.  
 12.—John Taylor.  
 13.—Raffe Cheetham of Redish.  
 13.—John sonne of Robte Hudson of Heaton.  
 15.—Ales Haughton of Romiley.  
 17.—AN INFANT OF EDWARD WARREN OF POINTON ESQUIER.  
 17.—A daughter of Brownes of Bramhall.  
 19.—Willm sonne of George Robothom.  
 21.—George Higgenbothom of Marple.  
 21.—Thomas Andrew of Stock.  
 21.—A boy of Willm Ashton.  
 21.—Nicholas Hulme of Bramhall.  
 22.—Ellen Shershaw of Offerton.

- 25.—Isabell Elcock wydow.  
26.—Henry Harropp.  
26.—Ellen Thornlley.  
28.—Uxor Corket *vidua morsa*.  
29.—John sonne of George Rediahe of Stockport.

MARCH, 1587.

BAPTISED.

- 8.—Alexander sonne of Willm Nicholson.  
9.—Margret daughter of Raffe Lowe of Stock.  
9.—Willm sonne of Willm Thorpe of Bramhall.  
12.—Margery daughter of Thomas Bordman.  
17.—Alexander sonne of James Smith.  
17.—Richard sonne of Raffe Browne.  
19.—John sonne of John Lees of Redish.  
20.—Jane daughter of Richard Hibbert.

BURIED.

- 1.—The wyfe of Lawrence Daniell of Hilgate in Stock.  
1.—Ales Kempe of the Hilgate in Stock.  
1.—Ales Gee.  
1.—Elizabeth daughter of George Bramhall of Stock.  
1.—Ellen daughter of Robte Gee also buried.  
3.—A pore womans chylde.  
4.—Edward Coeke of Northbury.  
4.—The wyfe of Ottiwell Dodge.  
4.—Ellen Birch of Bramhall.  
5.—The wyfe of John Birch of Bramhall.  
6.—The wyfe of James Adshead of Bredbury.  
7.—The wyfe of John Chorlton of Stock.  
11.—John Higham of Stockport.  
11.—Richard Elcocks of Stock.  
12.—Thomas Bredbury.  
13.—Anne Hunte.  
15.—A pore woman that dyed of chylbirth at Northbury.  
17.—Tow children of the same pore woman were buried.  
20.—The wyfe of Richard Hall of Stock.  
20.—Raffe Oldham of Redish.  
21.—Nicholas Daniell.

MARCH, 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 25.—Robte sonne of Edward Ashton.  
25.—Robte sonne Thomas Thomstones.  
28.—Willm sonne of Willm Erward *als* Erwood schole-mr of Bramhall.  
29.—John sonne of Alexander Collier.  
31.—Thomas sonne of Edward Bowerhouse of Stock.

BURIED.

- 27.—Edward Daniell of Stock.  
29.—Peter Pymlott.  
31.—Thomas Robynson of the Underbank in Stock.  
31.—Richard Bennetson.

APRILL 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 3.—Henry sonne of Henry Collier.  
5.—John sonne of George Chorlton.  
7.—Elizabeth daughter of John Higham.  
21.—Thomas sonne of Margret Aspinall.

MARRIED.

- 10.—Robte Roson *als* Matley and Ellen Herod.  
10.—John Taylor and Jane Daniell.

BURIED.

- 2.—Lawrence Daniell.  
5.—The wyfe of John Didsbury of Woodley.  
7.—The wyfe of Nicholas Daniell.  
9.—The wyfe of John Chestham of Bredbury.  
11.—John Somester of Stock.  
14.—Richard sonne of Steven Tomlinson a labouring man.  
15.—The wyf of John Bromhall.  
16.—Raffe Browne.  
17.—The wyf of Willm Rowbothom.  
22.—Isabell daughter of Robte Hulme.  
25.—Henry sonne of Homfrey Wharnby.  
26.—Nicholas Cashe of Stock.  
27.—The wyf of Raffe Cottrell.  
27.—Margret Hunte.  
28.—The wyfe of John Collier of Bredbury.  
28.—The wyfe of Robte Ryle of Stock.

MAYE 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 9.—Elizabeth daughter of John Wharnby.  
10.—Anne daughter of Thomas Ward *als* Hyde.  
12.—Jane daughter of Willm Dauda.  
24.—John sonne of Guy Seddon.  
24.—Ales daughter of Robte Brook.  
24.—Thomas sonne of Robte Cleston.  
26.—Ellen daughter of Robte Bridge.  
31.—Elizabeth daughter of Edward Ryle of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 22.—Willm Greenhill and Elizabeth Hudson.

BURIED.

- 1.—Willm Robynson of Heaton.  
1.—Willm Daniell of Stock.  
4.—The wyfe of John Elcocks of Stock.  
7.—The wyfe of John Somester.  
10.—Margret daughter of Willm Swyndells.  
13.—A daughter of Thomas Hilma.  
13.—The wyfe of Raffe Seale of Stock.  
16.—The wyfe of James Cooper of Northbury.  
19.—The wyfe of Robte Holme of Heaton.  
19.—Raffe Bennetson of Stock.  
20.—John Goodyer of Echulla.  
23.—Alexander sonne of James Smith.  
23.—Raffe Thumstone of Stock.  
25.—The sonne of Henry Daniell of Bramhall.  
26.—The wyfe of Richard Kelsall of Echulla.

- 29.—Richard Pownall.  
 29.—The wyfe of Raffe Sydebothom.  
 30.—Thomas Roson of Stock.  
 31.—The wyfe of Hugh Hall of Bramhall.  
 31.—Ales daughter of Reinolde Gee.

## JUNE 1588.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Raffe sonne of Richard Bridghouse of Stock.  
 18.—Ales daughter of John Henshall.  
 18.—Jane daughter of Willm Ridgway.

## MARRIED.

- 6.—Willm Reade and Elizabeth Blomiley.  
 23.—Thomas Swyndells and Ales Robotuom.

## BURIED.

- 1.—The wyfe of John Dowley.  
 3.—John Maralande of Bosson.  
 4.—The wyfe of John Daniell of Bramhall.  
 4.—The wyfe of Thomas Rodes of Bramhall.  
 5.—Richard Kelsall of Echulla.  
 9.—Uxor Patner *vidua*.  
 9.—John sonne of Willm Leadbeater  
 10.—John Brombyll of Stock.  
 10.—Thomas Jepson of Bosson.  
 12.—The wyfe of Otiwell Redish.  
 12.—The wyfe of John Goodyer of Echulla.  
 12.—The wyfe of Richard Pownall.  
 14.—Robte Swyndells of Marple.  
 17.—The wyfe of Reinold Nicholson.  
 19.—Andrew Knowles Miller.  
 19.—A poor man that dyed at Henry Daniells also  
     buried.  
 20.—Infantula Willmie Ridgeway of Bramhall.  
 21.—The wyfe of Richard Key of Stock.  
 22.—Robte Rocrofte of Bramhall.  
 23.—Raffe Cowper of Northbury.  
 23.—A daughter of George Redishe of Stock.  
 25.—Willm Bowker of Bramhall.  
 29.—Richard sonne of Reinold Nicholson.

## JULY 1588.

## BAPTISED.

- 9.—George sonne of Alexander Bowerhouse.  
 11.—Ellen daughter of Edward Brook.  
 21.—James sonne of James Willinson.  
 22.—John sonne of Raffe Didsbury.  
 28.—Willm sonne of Willm Wilkinson.  
 29.—Anne daughter of James Pownall.

## MARRIED.

- 2.—John Hulme and Ellen Hulme.

## BURIED.

- 3.—The wyfe of Thomas Woode of Bramhall.  
 5.—Thomas Key of Stock.  
 6.—Isabell Hanley of Bredbury.  
 6.—Ric. Byrtonshaw of Bramhall.  
 6.—Willm Robothom of Bramhall.

- 6.—Ellen Elliot of Marple.  
 7.—Raffe Elcock of Stock.  
 7.—The wyfe of George Hall of Stock.  
 8.—Alexander Bowerhouse of Heaton.  
 10.—John Wharneby of Bosson.  
 11.—The wyfe of Guy Seddon of Romiley.  
 15.—Ellen Piggot of Stock.  
 21.—John Bancroft of Stock.  
 29.—Robte Torkinton of Stock.

## AUGUST 1588.

## BAPTISED.

- 4.—Myles sonne of George Bowerhouse.  
 4.—Mary daughter of Robte Barret.  
 15.—WILLIAM THE SONNE OF RICHARD GERARD PARSON  
     OF STOCKPORT WAS BAPTIZED THE 15TH.  
 16.—Ellen daughter of Humffrey Skelborne.

## BURIED.

- 6.—Jane Pownall of Bramhall.  
 7.—Thomas fletcher of Didsbury.  
 23.—Mary Cottrell of Northbury.  
 28.—John Adshead of Torkinton.

## SEPTEMBER 1588.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Edward sonne of Robte Thorniley.  
 2.—Willm sonne of Lawrence fallowes of Bramhall.  
 18.—Robte sonne of Thomas Nicholson.  
 15.—Nicholas sonne of John Bennetson.  
 28.—Elizabeth daughter of Sydebotham.  
 21.—Robte sonne of John Browne of Offerton.  
 25.—Margret daughter of Thomas Roson of Stockport.  
 27.—Lucretia daughter of John Hillarie clerk of Stock.  
 27.—Prudentia daughter of Roger Hardman.  
 30.—Thomas sonne of Willm Ashton.

## MARRIED.

- 21.—George Wood and Anne Tomlinson.  
 24.—Thomas Blackhurst and Jane Bibble.  
 25.—John Gee and Anne Higgenbothom.  
 29.—John Byrron and Anne Daniell.

## BURIED.

- 12.—Ellen daughter of Mawde Thorniley.  
 13.—An infant of a woman's that lay at Robte Downes  
     of Stock buried.  
 23.—The wyfe of John Mores of Marple.  
 23.—Raffe Didsbury of Woodley.  
 30.—The wyfe of Geoffrey Holme of Heaton.

## OCTOBER 1588.

## BAPTISED.

- 11.—RAFFE THE SONNE OF RAFFE ARDERNE OF BRED-  
     BURY GENT BAPTIZED THE 11TH.  
 15.—Robte sonne of Robte Davenport of Bramhall.  
 27.—Anne daughter of John Lees of Woodley.  
     Didsbury.

E. W. BULKELST.

## Replies.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

Your contributor, the author of "Recollections of Stockport," in his article of the 9th inst., states that a Mr W. H. Smith formerly worked the Mersey Mills. He refers to Mr William Smith, who died at Reddish House on the 17th July, 1841, and was, I believe, buried at Mellor Church. LAWRENCE WALKER.

Heaton Norris, 28th April, 1886.

## Queries.

**WILLIAM SHUTTLEWORTH, ARTIST.**—I should esteem it a favour if some correspondent to Cheshire Notes and Queries could furnish particulars of the life and works of the above artist, was he a native of Stockport. A list of his works would be of interest to others besides CESTRIAN.

**EASTER.**—Would some correspondent to Notes and Queries kindly inform me from what the names Good Friday and Easter are derived; also what is the origin of "lifting" at this time of the year, and whether it is still in vogue. A READER.

~~~~~  
SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1886.

## Notes.

### THE LIFE OF SAMUEL EATON.

II.

It is not improbable that Eaton was allowed by "the said keeper" to escape from prison altogether. Laud, in the course of the examination of a body of Separatists surprised and captured in a wood near Newington, Surrey, said "the keeper hath let some of the principal of the other company to escape" (11). Neal says that after two years' confinement all, except Mr Lathorp, were released upon bail. Writs of attachment for their non-appearance were issued on June 12th and 19th, Oct. 9th, and Feb. 19th, 1634-5. Eaton himself gives us a short sketch of this period:—

After that about eleven years since (1634) he was forced to leave the kingdom and seek for shelter in Holland, and there joined with others in a congregational way; and after that, when the unsuitableness of the air occasioned much sickness, he was constrained to return, and finding no rest, was the second time necessitated to transplant himself in New England, where, if the High Commission of York could have let him alone, he might probably have ended his days. But for non-appearance at their courts when yet he was out of the land, and knew nothing of their summons, he was fined in several sums of money, which together amounted to £1550 (12). And his estate in Wirral in Cheshire was extended upon for payment, and the tenant to whom the land was leased before his departure to New England forced to pay great sums of money for the redemption of his cattle, which were driven off the ground, where he was supported in those troublous times by the beneficence of two religious gentlemen, William Stevinton, of Dothit, and his

son-in-law, Creswall Taylor, of Longdon aforesaid, his noble friends (13).

This time was one of woful tribulation for men like Eaton, of independent thought and enthusiastic action. Prevented from worshipping God according to their consciences in public, and indicted before the bishops for every imaginable offence and charge, they were bound to seek refuge in privacy. On April 1st, 1634, however, Laud and the High Commission issued the following proclamation to justices of the peace mayors, bailiffs, constables, &c.:—

Taking with you a constable, and such other convenient assistance as you think meet, we require you to enter into any house or place where you shall have intelligence or probably suspect that any such private conventicles, meetings, or exercises of religion are held, kept, and frequented; and herein, and in every several room thereof you make diligent search for unlicensed books, and seize them in any place, exempt or not exempt (14).

This is only one example of the tyranny then rampant. A contemporary writer says:—

Neither, I think, can it be showed that, in all Queen Mary's time, there was so great havoc made in so short a time of the faithful ministers of God in any part of, yea, or in the whole land.

Thus was brought to pass that state of things which John Milton said was the most ill-brooding sign to a nation, when the inhabitants, to avoid insufferable grievances at home, are enforced by heaps to forsake their native country. But even the refuge of exile was refused, and proclamations were issued suffering none to emigrate without licence, and a testimonial of their conformity to the order and discipline of the church, and ordering the remand of those who had gone away without such approbation. These edicts came too late to have much effect, for the hour of retribution was at hand.

11. Waddingtons Cong. Hist., p. 278.  
12. It appears from the "Proceedings of the Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Causes" (Brit. Mus., MSS., 24460), that Samuel Eaton, of West Kirby, clerk, was fined in sums amounting from £50 to £500, by doubling each time, for his contumacy in not appearing before the Commission.  
Barwaker, II., p. 28. Note.

13. Preface to "Defence of Sundry Positions," &c., see Ante.  
14. Waddington's Congregational History," II., 280.



Little is known of the life of Eaton while in America. What little we do know serves only to show that they who had been driven from England by divisions were soon divided amongst themselves. Along with Mr John Davenport, B.D., the vicar of Coleman-street, London—who had likewise fled into Holland, and from thence to New England—and his brother Theophilus Eaton, Samuel was one of the founders of the New Haven Colony in Connecticut. After waiting patiently for nine months at Boston for a grant of land "convenient for their families and their friends, to their great charge and hindrance many ways" (15), they purchased from the Indians a settlement in the State just named. They found a situation to their mind, commodious for trade, and capable to entertain those that were to follow them, to the south-west of Connecticut river. The town of New Haven was first established, followed by Guilford, Milford, Stamford, and Brainford. After some time they crossed the bay, and made several settlements in Long Islands, erecting churches in all places where they came, after the Independent form (16). The historian Bancroft writes as follows of this interesting colony (17):—

Its forms were austere, unmingled Calvinism; but the spirit of humanity had sheltered itself under the rough exterior. The colonists held their first gathering under a branching oak. It was a season of gloom. Spring had not yet revived the verdure of nature. Under the leafless tree the little flock were taught by Davenport that, like the Son of Man, they were led into the wilderness to be tempted. After a day of fasting and prayer, they rested their first frame of government on a simple plantation covenant that all of them should be ordered by the rules which the Scripture held forth to them. . . . When after more than a year the free planters of the colony desired a more perfect form of government, the followers of Him who was laid in a manger held their constituent assembly in a barn. There, by the influence of Davenport, it was solemnly resolved that the Scriptures are the perfect rule of a commonwealth; that the purity and peace of the ordinances to themselves and their posterity were the great end of civil order; and that church members only should be free burgesses. A committee of twelve was elected to choose seven men qualified for the foundation work of organising the Government. Eaton, Davenport, and five others were "the seven pillars" for the new House of Wisdom in the wilderness. In August, 1639, the seven pillars assembled, possessing for the time absolute power. Having abrogated every previous executive trust, they admitted to the court all church members. The character of civil magistrates was next expounded "from the sacred oracles," and the election followed. Then Davenport, in the words of Moses to Israel in the wilderness, gave a charge to the governor, to judge righteously; "the cause that is too hard for you," such was a part of the minister's text, "bring it unto me, and I will hear it." Annual elections were ordered, and

15. See Davenport and Eaton's joint letter to the Governor of New England in Waddington's "Congregational History," II., 327.

16. Neal's "History of New England," p. 152.

17. "History of the United States," I., 408.

God's word was established as the only rule in public affairs.

Simple and beautiful as this narrative reads, such a scheme could not be expected to meet the requirements of a new and a growing colony, consisting of those who had left their old homes in the search for freedom. Samuel Eaton could not agree with the regulation restricting the franchise to church members, and upon its being publicly read and adopted he rose in his place to express dissent therefrom (18). In his account of his reasons for returning to England, we have seen that no mention is made of this difference; but we are informed of it by Calamy and others (19).

Upon his dissent from Mr Davenport, says Calamy, about the narrow terms and forms of civil government then imposed upon that infant colony (by Mr Davenport), his brother advised him to a removal. Calling at Boston on his way, the church there gave him a pressing invitation to settle with them, but he was full bent upon coming back to old England, where God had most work for him to do.

A Wood says that before leaving New England he studied at the University (Harvard College) and preached among the brethren there.

The reasons which he assigns for his speedy return were destined, however, quickly to disappear. Tyranny had reached the high water mark of endurance. The people were goaded to madness by restrictive oaths and retributive pains and penalties. The year in which he returned (1640) was made famous by the assembling of the Long Parliament. All important events followed each other in rapid succession. After a severe struggle the Puritan party gained the ascendancy. The Star Chamber and Court of High Commission were abolished; the bishops were excluded from Parliament, and Laud was condemned to the Tower. Petitions against and in favour of the Episcopate were being numerously signed all over the country; and on April 9, 1642, an ordinance was passed abolishing the Episcopal Government and liturgy of the Church.

Woodley.

JAMES COCKS.

#### OLD PLAY BILLS OF STOCKPORT.

##### III.

From the following it would appear they had their prodigies of strength and nerve fifty years ago. But what a stomach Mr Azemas what-do-they-call-him must have had to swallow four swords in addition to such small fry as hen eggs, and a flint stone six by four! But here is the "bill of the play":—

18. Palfrey's "History of New England," I., p. 532.

19. Calamy's "Nonconformist Memorial," edited by Palmer; also "Notes and Queries," second series, vol II., p. 126.

THEATRE, STOCKPORT.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WONDERFUL MAN,  
And positively the LAST NIGHT of his Performing,  
**T**HIS present FRIDAY Evening, November 8th,  
1883, will be performed Sheridan's Play of

P I Z A R R O .

A COMIO SONG BY MR. HALL.

After which, the  
WONDERFUL MAN AZEMAS HAROUNALRAZHID,  
Who is engaged at a considerable expense, for Three  
Nights only, will perform; and positively, without  
Trick or Deception, SWALLOW several real STEEL  
SWORDS, each upwards of TWO FEET FIVE INCHES  
LONG, which he swallows one and two at a time.  
He will also SWALLOW a REAL FLINT STONE, four  
inches and a half in circumference one way, and six  
inches and a quarter the other; also REAL HEN'S  
EGGS, which he will return at any moment required  
by the Audience. In addition to his other perfor-  
mances he will SWALLOW FOUR SWORDS, and will  
also BEAR A STONE, One Thousand Pounds Weight,  
upon his Breast, and suffer it to be broke with Sledge  
Hammers; and will forfeit ONE THOUSAND  
GUINEAS if there is any Trick or Deception made use  
of in any part of his performance herein contained.

N.B.—The surprising performances of the above  
wonderful man AZEMAS HAROUNALRAZHID being  
thought by many persons incredible, he begs to re-  
move any doubts which may be entertained, by a re-  
ference to a Certificate in the hands of Mr HOWARD,  
signed by J. WOJBOCK, Surgeon, of Bury, by which  
he bears testimony, that the same is without Trick or  
Deception.

The whole to conclude with an entirely new Melo-  
Drama (as now performing in London with loud  
applause), with new Scenery, Machinery, numerous  
combats, single and double; produced under the  
direction of Mr COLLIER, called

CARELIA AND IDA,

Being positively the LAST TIME, as it must then be  
withdrawn for other novelties.

The celebrated INGLEBY, Senior, Emperor of all the  
Conjurors, is engaged for THREE EVENINGS.

On MONDAY, the 11th of November, the New  
Tragedy of CONSCIENCE, with Mr INGLEBY—WEDNES-  
DAY, ISABELLA, with Mr INGLEBY.—FRIDAY, Mr  
INGLEBY'S BENEVO, and last appearance.

Tickets to be had of Mr AZEMAS HAROUNAL-  
RAZHID, at the White Lion Inn; and at the *Advertiser*  
Office, where places for the Boxes may be taken.

☞ The Stone will remain for inspection at the  
Theatre Door during the day.

The Manager feels happy to announce to the public

that Mrs HOWARD, being recovered from her late in-  
disposition, will appear in the After-piece this Evening.  
THE SPIAN.

RELIGIOUS CENSUS OF STOCKPORT IN 1754.

The following is an interesting table showing the  
number of families in the town and pariah of Stock-  
port, the number of souls, and the religion they pro-  
fessed. Taken in 1754:—

	Families Ch. of E.	Souls Ch. of E.	Families Prot. Dis.	Souls Prot. Dis.	No. of houses taken in 1779.
Stockport .....	658	2750	73	343	906
Bredbury .....	34	180	94	417	81
Dukinfield .....	82	409	69	269	168
Marple .....	107	463	22	66	151
Bramhall .....	68	329	45	208	86
Norbury .....	70	283	3	24	73
Brinnington ...	11	78	4	26	16
Hyde .....	38	169	55	298	62
Werneth .....	16	81	63	277	65
Torkington .....	27	144	4	20	32
Stichells .....	66	284	19	94	90
Romiley .....	19	87	55	286	67
Offerton .....	29	125	8	34	41
Disley .....	132	570	1	4	145
	1367	5963	504	2365	2865

Nemo.

EASTER.

In your last issue of Friday last, April 30th, I find  
"A Reader" asks the following: "Would some corre-  
spondent kindly inform me from what the names of  
Good Friday and Easter are derived, &c.?" Taking the  
last part of the question, I forward you the following,  
thinking it may help to elucidate the derivation of  
"Easter." From an old magazine called *The Christian  
World and Family Visitor*, for 1866, I find these perti-  
nent remarks:—"But this year, A.D. 1866, the cus-  
tomary jokes cannot possibly transpire, for on the first of  
April occurs the great sacred festival of Easter Sun-  
day." We borrow the word Easter, of course, like that  
Lent, from our Saxon and heathen ancestors, who  
kept at this season the feast of their goddess Easter.  
Also I find in the *Christian Cyclopedia*, edited by the  
Rev. James Gardiner, M.D. and A.M., the following:—  
"The passover is only once called Easter (Acts xii.  
4). This great festival of the Jews was instituted in  
commemoration of God's sparing the Hebrews. The  
ecclesiastical festival called Easter originated in the  
circumstance that Christ was typified by the paschal  
lamb ordained by Moses to be slain at the feast of the  
passover, the feast being considered as a continuation  
in its fulfilment of the Jewish festival. The English  
name Easter and the German Ostern are derived from  
the name of the Teutonic goddess Ostera (Anglo-Saxon  
Eostre), whose festival was celebrated by the ancient  
Saxons in the month of April, and for which, as in  
many other instances, the first Romish missionaries  
substituted the paschal feast. As early as the second  
century there were keen disputes respecting the day  
on which this feast should be kept. The dispute was

finally settled at the council of Nice, in the year 325, which ordained that it should be kept always on a Sabbath."

GEORGE SHENTON.

Alsager.

One of the Easter customs which used to be common in both Lancashire and Cheshire, and as prevalent in Liverpool as anywhere else, was that of "lifting." This was practised on the Monday and Tuesday in Easter week, and the practice is supposed to have a profane derivation from the Resurrection. On Monday gangs of men went about the town streets and country lanes and lifted any women they chanced to meet, unless prepared to pay a forfeit in the shape of money or kisses. On the following day the women had their revenge, keeping a look-out for men to toss up, almost after the manner of shaking carpets. In Cheshire mansions the masters and mistresses were wont to submit to be lifted. The male servants placed a chair for the mistress in the breakfast-room on Monday and lifted her slightly, and next day the female servants did the same for the master. On both days money was distributed among the domestics. In later years "lifting" was practised only by the lowest classes, and it is extinct now, or nearly so.

W. A. W.

#### GOOD FRIDAY.

1. The term Good Friday is a distinct English name for the fast day commemorating the crucifixion. The ancient name was Holy Friday, though in the

Saxon time it was called Long Friday, because of the length of the offices and fastings which the Church enjoined on that day. 2. The date of the fast varies with that of Easter. Good Friday fell on the 3rd April last year, while this year it is on the 23rd. Next year it will be on the 8th April, and in 1888 it will be on the 30th March. It is the Friday before Easter, and Easter Day may be any day of the five weeks which commence on the 22nd March and end on the 25th April, so that this year it reaches the extreme limit of lateness. Easter is the first Sunday after the full moon which happens upon or next after the 21st March, and if the full moon happens upon a Sunday, Easter Day is the following Sunday. The term Easter is derived from the Anglo-Saxon *Eastre* or *Eostre*, a goddess of light or spring, whose festival was celebrated in April, which was called "Easter-mondth."

R. E.

## Queries.

CHESHIRE SHERIFFS.—Some time ago a contributor to "Notes and Queries" supplied a partial list of the High Sheriffs of Cheshire, and a hope was expressed at the time that some other correspondent would supply the remainder, thus bringing it down to modern times. I believe a complete list is given in Ormerod's work, and I should be glad if some one having access to it would supply the hiatus.

A READER.

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SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT SIXTY YEARS AGO.

#### VII.

Nestling under Dodge Hill, at the east end of Throstle-grove, still stands an old mill. Early in the present century this was worked by a Mr Johnson as a jenny factory. Under the auspices of the late Rev. Kelsall Prescott this mill was used for some years afterwards as a Church Sunday school. In the year 1823, the time of Mr Hardy's mayoralty, Mr Ralph Orrell was firmly established in the building, and was engaged in his great successful industry of thread manufacturing. As I have in an early paper alluded to this once popular Orrell

family, I will now only add a few supplementary remarks. Mr Ralph Orrell was a stout-built person, of middle stature. He was very energetic, and superintended his thread works himself. I was a jenny piecer in this locality in the year 1827, and I often saw the lads engaged at these works enjoying themselves during the few minutes they had to themselves at dinner-time in their various games, such as "tib stick," "foot and a half," peg top, &c. I thought they were a happy lot, and I longed to cast in my lot with them. Besides, "jenny"-piecing was by these lads reckoned an ignoble occupation, and we had to be very civil and humble ourselves very much before we were allowed to take a part in their games. I laid my case before my mother. I told her that I was tired of jenny-piecing, and that I wished to be allowed to

go and work at Mr Orrell's thread works. I gained my mother's consent, and was not long before I got installed a doffer. I had worked there but a very short time when I found out that all that glitters is not gold, and I wished myself a jenny-piecer again. There was no Act of Parliament then restricting the hours which the hands should work, neither was there any Act enforcing holidays. There was a tacit understanding amongst the masters that the engines should run from six o'clock a.m. until twelve at noon, start again at one and run until eight p.m., and observe Good Friday and Christmas Day as holidays. Many of the masters conformed to this rule, but Mr Ralph Orrell did not. I went to work at this mill shortly before Good Friday, and I know that we were forced to be at work on that holiday.

The next holiday season was the 1st of May, which was then always observed a half if not a whole holiday by the jenny spinners, and the piecer was in very bad repute if he did not receive a few coppers from his master as a "fairing" to expend on May Day. There was, however, no relaxation from labour for Mr Orrell's workpeople on this recognised holiday. The next festive season observed by most of the masters in Stockport and by all jenny spinners was the 23rd of October, the day when the new Mayor was chosen and installed into office. I have described this pageant to the best of my ability in a former paper. I was a chorister in St. Mary's Church choir, as stated before, and this 23rd of October was the day on which the choir partook of their annual feast. I had been present at one of these in the year 1826, when Mr Henry Hodgkinson was made the Mayor of Stockport. Mr Hodgkinson was a chemist and druggist, and resided and carried on his business in the premises at the top of Park-st., afterwards occupied by Mr Jerry Royse, of the same profession, now Armitage's tobacco manufactory.

On the 23rd of October, 1827, Mr Thomas Walmsley was made Mayor of Stockport, and I, not having had a holiday since I commenced to work for Mr Orrell, made sure that I should have one on this occasion, and be allowed to join my musical friends in the service at the church, and partake of supper with them afterwards at the Pack Horse Inn. I made my case known to the female I "doffed" for, Abigail Clarkson, who then resided in Churchgate, and she willingly gave her consent for me to go. She told the overlooker, John Kershaw, of my desire, but he gave her a flat denial, saying that if he granted the privilege to one he

should have to grant it to all. The next holiday season which came round was Christmas Day. On this occasion the engine had to undergo some repairs, which caused it to have a holiday—but not me. Myself and some other lads were engaged to slutch and clean the well and cistern which supplied the engine with water. This was a novel occupation, and we enjoyed it very much. In cleaning the well and cistern we had some fine sport in chasing and catching a large quantity of eels which had found their way from the river up the tunnel, had got into the well, and could not get out again. After we had done our work these eels were divided amongst us. I took my portion home and my mother made an excellent eel pie, which was highly relished by our family.

Mr Orrell's thread mill was governed by very strict rules, which would not be tolerated nowadays by the operatives. He came through the mill personally several times a day. He had a lame brother who was often in the yard taking notice who came in the mill and who went out. After the thread was manufactured it was not wound on shallow bobbins, as it is now, the bobbin being about ten times the weight of the thread. Three-fourths of Mr Orrell's hands at that time were females. When the thread came from the doubling frame it went to the reelers—all females. It was then sent to the bleacher and dyer. The hanks were brought back again to the mill, bleached and dyed, and then came to the ballers, who were all females also. The two upper rooms of the mill were occupied by these female ballers, and two of Mr Orrell's sisters superintended this branch of the work. Mr Hallworth was the book-keeper, and when Mr Orrell was away he acted as manager. To superintend about twenty males and about sixty females, there were Mr Orrell, his brother, Mr Hallworth, two sisters, John Kershaw and Joseph Potts, overlookers. It will be seen that the hands were well looked after. I never remember any fines being exacted from the workpeople for bad work or misdemeanour. Instead of fines the hands had to submit themselves to corporal punishment. If a hand committed a fault the case was reported either to Mr Orrell or to Mr Hallworth. The culprit (he or she) was summoned to the warehouse, where they received so many strokes on the hand, according to the amount of their offending. If the punishment was administered by Mr Orrell, it was generally done with his walking stick. If by Mr Hallworth, it was administered with a strap,

which was kept in the warehouse for the purpose.

I will give one case, illustrating the severity of this punishment. Elizabeth Johnson, who was about nineteen years old, and resided in the yard adjoining the residence of Mr J. L. Vaughan, Old-road, Heaton Norris. This young woman had committed some misdemeanour. She was summoned before Mr Orrell in the warehouse, her case was heard, and she was found to be guilty. She received a number of strokes on her hand, administered by Mr Orrell. I remember Miss Johnson coming to our house a few days after she had received this castigation to show my mother the state her hand was in. It was very much swollen, and she was unable to resume her occupation for several days. I don't mention this case to prove that Mr Orrell was a cruel person; I found out afterwards that corporal punishment was administered to as great an extent in other mills as at ours. Mr Orrell prospered to a great extent whilst working this little mill. It was currently reported that he gained a shilling at every turn of the fly-wheel. This mill has been used for various purposes since Mr Orrell's time. It is now a corn mill owned by Mr Bower, of the Park.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

## Replies.

### STRINGER, THE STOCKPORT CLOCKMAKER.

I do not "give any clue to the Christian name of the clockmaker Stringer," because I have none. All I know is that within a few weeks an old clock, an heirloom in my family, has come into my possession, bearing this inscription—"Stringer, Stockport"—and nothing more, not even a date. Indeed, it is to me more accurately fix the age of my old clock that I make the inquiry as to Stringer the clockmaker. From what I can gather, however, I think the clock was made by the Stringer of 1706, if not by an earlier one. In order to give what information I can I here subjoin an inscription which I intend to put upon this old clock, which will tell its own tale:—

This clock stood in my grandfather's house, Piggishawe Brook, Morley, Wilmslow, when I first knew it. My grandfather's name was Samuel Goodier. I was born Anno Domini 1828, with my grandfather, and with him brought up; so that I knew this clock, the only one we had for many years' from my earliest days. My grandfather married Mary, the daughter of James and Margaret Worstencroft, of Wilmslow, and she brought him this

clock from her parents. Her mother, Margaret, the wife of James Worstencroft, was the daughter of William Hulme, of a place called the Tan-yard, now demolished, or nearly so, that stood in the back lane leading from Lacey Green to Finney Green, and from him, Margaret Worstencroft, my great grandmother, had this clock. My reason for saying so is that I have often heard my grandmother say that this clock was bought when one of her uncles Hulme was born—I think the eldest. William Hulme, of the Tan-yard, is buried in an altar tomb at the steeple end of Wilmslow Church. He must not be confounded with the more recent family of Hulme, of the estate on the road leading from Finney Green to Styal, and now called Stanneylands, formerly the term Stanneylands was applied generally to all that part of Morley north of the Bollin. [William Hulme was a substantial householder in Pownall Pw in the year 1817.—*Pownall Pw Township Chest.*] From my grandfather, Samuel Goodier, this old clock passed to his son Solomon Goodier, who succeeded him at Piggishawe Brook, and he sold it to Job Arden, of Wilmslow, and from him I bought it, and brought it to Leigh. It looks no older now than it did fifty years back. Witness my hand 11th April, 1886. I am the son of Ann, the daughter of Mary, the daughter of Margaret, the daughter of William Hulme, the first owner [so far as I know] of this clock.

WILLIAM NORBERT.

I should like to know if there are any other clocks about bearing the name of Stringer of Stockport. The old clock in the Chetham Library has rather more ornamentation about it; but to me it appears to be older than this clock, and it is dated 1695.

This clock has been out of use some years, and when I got it home and decently fixed, the old boy seemed to be mightily pleased. He set off going like a "two-year-old," and his bell sounded all over the house, but his tongue was something irregular and wild. He would do too much. After two days, when Sunday came round, he sobered down and struck the hour decently and reverently, but uttered nothing more; when Monday morning came, he, however, again indulged in his loquacity. I think when a youth he must have taken a fright when standing in "Master" Stringer's shop, at the headles and churchwardens of the Stockport Parish Church, as they paraded the streets with the silver-topped staves of office. Evidently he yet respects the Sabbath. While I write he keeps ticking away, going as well and striking as regularly as when nearly two hundred years back he was turned out by the worthy Stockport clockmaker.

There are many things that I could like him to tell me, but he is very reticent. I suspect him to be a Tory of the old school, and that in his youthful days he had leanings to the Stuarts. He was a brisk young chap when the style and calendar were altered, and heard all the row about the "robbery of eleven days," but he quietly kept on measuring out days of 24 hours leaving the people to put them in whatsoever months they liked. He was in middle life when

Napoleon and Wellington arose, and remembers all the bother they kicked up for a time, and how it all went out. He remembers when cotton spinning was introduced into England, and all about Arkwright, Crompton, and others, and would not be surprised if he should see the end on't yet. The turnpike roads he remembers being cut, and how they were regarded as new-fangled inventions. Railways are things that have come in since he grew old, and he does not bother his head about the "hurry devils." He cannot see what modern clocks need two weights for; he has done all his work for nearly two hundred years with one. He does not believe in moon plates, barometers, and such like new fangles, and yet he is only a day behind any of the new school in the matter of the weather, for if they can tell in the morning he can tell at night, and he remembers a wise old proverb that "He that observeth the wind shall not sow." American clocks going by springs, and all gongs, and wires, and such like deviltry and evil devices, he utterly abominates, and although he stands within a few yards of a railway he utterly ignores its existence, and never so much as turns his head when, with a rush, a mail train flies past. I think he never read much. I should like to know if he read after Johnson, and whether he knew Boswell by sight. If I could get the old chap to read I would try him with Ruskin, but as yet we are not well enough acquainted.

He keeps on tick! tick! tick! his broad brazen face

full upon me as I write, and he seems to say to himself "Write on, write on. I saw thy great-great-grandfather out, and the three intervening generations, and thou art no chicken. I shall see thee out yet, and, like enough, thy youthful grandson, W. T. N. Humphries, too, who is the seventh generation of thy family for whom I have measured days. I shall be sorry when thy end comes, for thou hast found one a home. I shall go on ticking as usual, measuring off the eternity that is past from the eternity that is coming. I daily do my duty—do thine."

Leigh.

W. NORBURY.

## Queries.

HOLEHOUSE FOLD, HATHERLOW.—Can any reader of Notes and Queries versed in local place-names throw some little light on the origin and meaning of Holehouse Fold, Hatherlow? S.

Romiley,

WHITE NANCY.—Can any of the readers of Notes and Queries inform me when "White Nancy," which is situated on the summit of a hill at Bollington was erected. ANTIQUARY.

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SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1886.

## Notes.

SAMUEL ROBINSON.

The Reign of Terror which was marked by the never-ceasing rush and clang of the mass of metal to which the knife of the guillotine was secured, shot a feeling of insecurity and alarm throughout France, a feeling, however, which was not bounded by its shores, but spread over Europe. The determination of Burke "to diffuse the terror" in England was unnecessary, for the execution of Louis XVI., following the massacres of September, engendered a feeling, first of horror and then of excitement, in the minds of the people, which the calm and peace loving minister was scarcely able to restrain. France, however, took the initiative. "All Governments," said its president, "are our enemies;" and war was declared against Holland, Spain, and England. Pitt entered upon the conflict with reluctance. England possessed a small and

inexperienced army, led by incapable generals. France, beleagured by almost all Europe, goaded to frenzy, hurled back her foes on every side, but did not cease to shed the blood of her own citizens. The queen, condemned to death by the Convention, was beheaded without the respite of a single day. Toulon was besieged and taken by the English, and it was on that occasion when a young man, whose name was to become famous, first distinguished himself. This was Napoleon Bonaparte. A few weeks earlier our arms had sustained a considerable naval reverse, namely, the defeat of twelve English and Dutch men-of-war and eighty merchantmen, off Cape St. Vincent. Military success or failure did not, however, affect the steady and terrible work of the guillotine. The revolution commenced to prey upon itself, and the time for the sacrifice of the great Danton approached. Though warned of his danger, he replied that he would rather be guillotined himself than continue to behead others. He had received

further warning in the arrest and mock trial of the leaders of the club of the Cordeliers, and no fewer than nineteen persons, including Hebert and Clootz, were carried on the tumbrils to the Place de la Revolution.

Within a few hours of the performance of that ghastly tragedy before an immense crowd in Paris, an interesting domestic incident was taking place in Manchester. Mr Thomas Robinson, engaged in the now long-extinct business of a cotton dealer, was a gentleman of considerable social position and influence, as well as culture. He was foremost in all objects for the benefit of the town, and took a leading part in the promotion of the Gentlemen's Concerts. At the time under consideration, namely, the 23rd of March, 1794, he resided at the corner of York-street and Mosley-street, on the left when proceeding from Spring Gardens. Mr Robinson subsequently lived at Crumpeall Old Hall, and afterwards built the mansion known as Woodlands, on Cheetham Hill. The house was afterwards the residence of Mr Alexander Henry. The wife of Mr Robinson was Sophia, daughter of Mr Oates, of Leeds. This lady was not altogether unconcerned in the domestic incident referred to, for on the day before named she became the mother of Samuel Robinson, the subject of this notice. He was the youngest son (who arrived at manhood) of Mr Thomas Robinson, and his single life has bridged the interval between the French revolution and almost the present time; indeed, so recently has he been taken from our midst that his gravestone has only lately been placed to mark his resting place, and so recently that he took an interest in the earlier articles of the "Wilmaloe Graves" series, of which his memoir is one of the concluding ones.

In Mosley-street an open space separated the house of Mr Robinson from the Assembly Rooms (then recently erected) which occupied the corner of Charlotte-street and Mosley-street. On the other side of Mosley-street, and immediately opposite to the house of Mr Robinson, stood the town residence of old Dr. Percival, one of the founders of the Literary and Philosophical Society, and one of the most eminent and respected of the inhabitants. His was one of the three private carriages which traversed Manchester streets. His country house was Hart-hill, on the old Eccles road. Nathaniel Heywood, father of the late Sir Benjamin Heywood, married the daughter of Dr. Percival. Late in life Mr Samuel Robinson said to Mr Oliver Heywood, "Nephew, I wish you to remember that I have seen your great grandfather, Dr. Percival, coming out of

his house in Mosley-street, in his black velvet coat and breeches, and with his gold-headed cane." The wife of Mr Heywood, the banker, afterwards Sir B. Heywood, Bart., was Sophia Ann, the sister of Samuel Robinson, and therefore Sir Percival and Mr Oliver Heywood are nephews to the subject of this sketch. The eldest son of Thomas Robinson was named Thomas Henry; he was an enthusiastic ornithologist, and, being a merchant, was able to procure from his foreign correspondents the skins of rare birds, which he caused to be set up with unusual skill. On the death of Mr J. Lee Phillips he acquired his valuable collection of butterflies, and these and the birds formed the basis of the collection formerly preserved at the museum in Peter-street, and which is now in the Owens College. Mr T. H. Robinson died at a comparatively early age. Another brother, Robert, lived and died at the Towers, Alderley Edge. He never married.

Manchester in 1794 presented a widely different appearance from the populous city of the present day. Seven years later the population of Manchester and Salford amounted to 84,953. In 1881 the census return gave for the municipal area 517,741, an increase of more than sixfold during one human life! Indeed, the increase was still more considerable, for the life in question extended before the date of the former enumeration and after the last one, altogether about a dozen years.

With the exception of the Old Church and the Chetham College scarcely any building was to be seen which could lay claim to any architectural character except the churches of St. Mary and St. Ann, together with that dedicated to St. Peter, which was then about being completed. The lower part of Mosley-street was not built over, and St. Peter's Church stood alone in an extensive plain; indeed, it was easy to walk from the Friends' Meeting House to Rusholme without encountering a single dwelling-house. Oxford-street was certainly projected, but it was not built on, and the Medlock, abounding in fish, pursued its sinuous course, dammed here and there to drive a mill, till it flowed into the newly-made canal at Knot Mill. Gardens occupied the central portion of the land bounded by Deansgate, Quay-street, Water-street, and Bridge-street, and the greater part of the site of the new Town Hall was similarly used. Where garden produce is now sold in Shudehill Market, garden produce grew. Fields extended to Swan-street. The gardens in Bloom-street possibly suggested its name. Granby-row was quite a suburban

locality, and the gardens sloped from its few houses down to the river. Fields extended from the opposite or north-west side of Granby-row to the Rochdale canal, and through them Shooter's Brook flowed. Rusholme-road did not contain a single house. On the Salford bank of the Irwell there were no houses further down the river than the New Bailey Prison. Peter-street was carried through a large unenclosed plot of land, with scarcely a building upon it except St. Peter's Church and the Friends' Meeting House. Twenty-two years later the furious charge of the Yeomanry Cavalry into some 80,000 unarmed men and women conferred upon the field the name of Peterloo.

Not alone the buildings, but in some cases the very names of the places have been changed. The lower end of Mosley-street was known as Dawson-street, and the part of Deansgate south of Peter-street was Alport-street. Rochdale-road was Back-lane. Lever's-row faced the Infirmary, and the black and white building, the White Bear Inn, was formerly the dwelling-house of Lady Lever. The name is preserved in Lever-street. The site of the London-road Station was Shooter's-brow, and pedestrians ascending the present incline pass over what was then a field containing a coal pit. The New Cross was standing at the end of Oldham-street, but Oldham-road was then known as Newton-lane. The old Exchange at the bottom of Market-street had been taken down two years previously. Salford was approached by three bridges which spanned the river; all have since been replaced by modern structures. The duties of the post-office for the town and neighbourhood were discharged by the maiden postmistress, assisted by a couple of clerks.

When Samuel Robinson was born the "time was out of joint." It has been already shown that the short peace after the Declaration of Independence, and the loss of our American colonies, was terminated by the commencement of war with France. A time of severe commercial depression supervened, and Manchester sustained its full share of the prevailing distress. Efforts were not wanting to stimulate the war fever; and in order to encourage a patriotic spirit, pretended discoveries of plots against the constitution, and to assist the king's enemies, the French, were concocted. On the second of April, Thomas Walker, Esq., and six others were tried at Lancaster on such a charge, but were acquitted. The militia were called out, the Habeas Corpus Act was suspended, and volun-

teers were raised for the first time. Though England had but a small army, and that army was badly handled, it possessed both wealth and credit, and our country soon became the paymaster for subsidised troops. The expenditure naturally soon increased to a truly alarming extent, and to add to the difficulty of the situation two deficient harvests forced corn up to a famine price. In 1795 a riot occurred in the town in consequence of the dearth, and a few months later the authorities and leading inhabitants publicly engaged themselves to reduce the consumption of wheaten flour in their households at least one-third. The war became unpopular, and a petition was despatched from the town praying for the restoration of peace. Bankruptcies had increased threefold, the poor were driven into rioting from scarcity of work and scarcity of food, great numbers of young men enlisted for the army, and it is feared that not a few persons perished from actual want. Soldiers patrolled the street throughout the night as well as day. Publichouses were closed at seven o'clock, and persons found in the streets after nine were required to furnish an account of their movements. Concerning the state of things in Manchester at this time Mr Reilly writes:—

As has generally been the case in the history of the world, glory and want went hand in hand; splendid reviews and famishing mobs were contemporaneous; and loyalty continued to characterise one class of the community, while poverty with its iron heel was grinding down the other.

Such was the condition of Manchester when Samuel Robinson was born. The poor-rate had reached no less an amount than five shillings in the pound. The suffering of the poor induced disease, and a severe epidemic of fever followed. When, in addition to all the various calamities, a shock of earthquake was felt in the town, it must have occurred to not a few persons that the state of affairs was beginning to resemble the commencement of the siege of Jerusalem:—

Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places; all these are the beginning of sorrows.

From the interesting but brief memoir by Mr W. J. H. Herford, we learn that Samuel Robinson made his entry into school life at the unusually early age of five years, when he attended the seminary for boys and girls conducted by Mr Holland, at the lower end of Princess-street. Although deprived of eyesight, Mr Holland appears to have been an able and successful teacher. Quiet perseverance, one of the



characteristics of Mr Robinson's character, was manifested at a very early age. Whilst staying at the seaside, Mr Thomas Robinson and a friend were watching the child sail his little boat, when the tide floated it out of his reach. "What will the boy do now?" said the friend. Without the least hesitation the little fellow waded into the salt water and repossessed himself of the boat. The boy would not be more than eight years of age when he was sent as a boarder to the Rev. Mr Broadbent, of Warrington, and from thence he was removed to the care of the Rev. John Tayler, of Nottingham. His residence in the Midlands seems to have been a very agreeable one, and he not unfrequently referred to it, and to the pleasant town of Nottingham, in later life. Afterwards he went to the Manchester New College, then located at York, where he profited greatly under the training of the scholarly Rev. John Keunrick, M.A., whom he always held in honour, and whose portrait hung in the dining room until the day of the pupil's death. After spending three years in York he proceeded to Edinburgh, where he finished his college course with much distinction. He greatly enjoyed the society and intellectual activity of the Scottish capital, which were rendered the more accessible to the cultured young student in consequence of the hospitality which was freely extended to him. The house of Mr and Mrs Fletcher was ever open to him, and he invariably spoke with respect and affection of this amiable and gifted lady.

Samuel Robinson was not intended to pursue a business life, and his tastes were literary. He was an excellent linguist. Persian literature specially attracted him, and he studied the language in order to master, in the original, the extensive and elegant poetry of the land of Shiraz. In those days a liberal education was concluded by the Grand Tour, and Mr Samuel Robinson supposing that his curriculum was concluded, commenced his continental travels. But the finishing touches were to be given to his education in an unexpected manner, and that which the future held in reserve was destined to superadd to the character of the elegant scholar, the qualities incident to the able and enlightened man of business. He found, with Hamlet,

There's a divinity that shapes our ends,  
Rough-hew them how we will.

The business of a cotton dealer during those days of vicissitude was an anxious one in any case, and unfortunately the consequences of the errors of

another were visited upon the head of Mr Robinson. Learning the changed circumstances of the father, the son returned at once from Italy, and addressed himself to the novel and doubtless uncongenial training for a mercantile life. After some experience of the dull routine of a Manchester warehouse, and something of life as a bookseller, he settled down to the avocation of a cotton spinner. He acquired the details of the business at the Oxford-road mills, then owned by Mr George William Wood, Mr Thomas Cooke, and others, and as his custom was, he neglected no detail whilst seeking to grasp a broad and comprehensive view of the subject which engaged his attention. Sixty years ago he entered into partnership with Mr Armitage as a cotton spinner, at the Dukinfield Old Mill. The course of a mercantile or commercial life, like that of true love, rarely runs smooth, and the business experience of Samuel Robinson was not one of altogether unbroken prosperity, although one of untiring industry and spotless integrity. In 1860 he was able to retire from business possessed of a handsome fortune, and could thenceforward prosecute his literary studies unimpeded, during his well-earned leisure, for more than a quarter of a century, in the delightful home which he made for himself at Fulshaw so long ago as in the year 1847.

In the year 1837 he had married Mary, daughter of Mr John Kennedy, of Ardwick Hall, and to her he proved a most tender and devoted husband until her death, which occurred on the shores of Lake Maggiore during a tour in Italy, 21 years afterwards. A neat marble tablet in the ancient chapel, Dean Row, contains the following inscription:—

MARY STUART KENNEDY ROBINSON,  
Of Blackbrook Cottage, near Wilmslow,  
Born at Manchester, November 7th, 1803,  
Died at Fallanry, August 26th, 1858,  
Interred at Zurich, August 31st, 1858.  
"In her tongue is the law of kindness."

This sad event was the great trial of his life, and its traces were never effaced. The appropriateness of the text inscribed upon the marble is attested by some of our poorer neighbours, who still remember the gentle manner of Mrs Robinson and her thoughtful care for those around her. The portrait (so carefully shaded from the light or the gaze of careless eyes by a silk curtain), which occupied the best position on the wall of the drawing-room in Blackbrook Cottage, portrayed a lovely but pensive face, from which the bloom of youth had not departed. In the chapel at Dean Row the tablet does not so

occupy the centre of the pier against the pew in which she whom it commemorates was wont to sit, but is placed on one side with just sufficient space for a similar one beside it; and there can be little doubt that it was the wish of the widower that the simple memorials of husband and wife should ever remain together over their accustomed seat.

The father of Mrs Robinson was an immigrant into Manchester when a young man. As a cotton spinner and maker of cotton machinery, Mr Kennedy was widely known and commercially successful. He was the friend of James Watt and of Dr. Dalton, and his spacious and hospitable house was the resort of talented persons from every quarter. His genial manners and ready welcome to young and enterprising men are well remembered by the now few surviving objects of his kindness. Mr Kennedy left one son and six daughters. One of these, as has already been mentioned, became the wife of Mr Robinson; Mr Greg, of Caton, near Lancaster, married another; and a third became the wife of that father of sanitary science, Mr Edwin Chadwick, C.B.; Mr Escher married a fourth, and she subsequently became the second wife of Mr James Heywood; Mrs M'Connell, of Cresbrook, being another daughter.

No sooner had Mr Robinson entered upon his business avocations at Dukinfield than the desire was awakened in him to diffuse substantial benefit of the best kind among his workpeople. Among other schemes for their improvement, the formation of a library in connection with the mill engaged his attention, and this was gradually extended until it was transferred to a separate building, and made available for the district, when it assumed the name of the village library. Lectures and addresses were given, and in some of these, which have been preserved, we can discover the attitude taken by Mr Robinson with regard to various social and economical questions. During the last half century the diffusion of education among the working classes has greatly extended; but perhaps the classes above them have benefited by the spread of knowledge to a still greater extent. The education which they have received was not so much in the direction of the classics, mathematics, or science, as in social, economical, and political matters. The opinions which at the present time are almost universally accepted, with regard to the duty of extending education to the humbler classes, and their claim to representation in the legislature of the country, were not generally recognised. Religious equality was scarcely thought of, and even tolerance had many opponents. These and other kindred circumstances

must be borne in mind before it is possible to estimate the position taken by Mr Robinson during the earlier period of his connection with Dukinfield. The opinions which, when he advocated them, were novel, and seemed daring, if not Utopian, have since met with a very general acceptance; and in this circumstance may be found an evidence of that prescience which was one of the distinguishing qualities of the character of Mr Robinson. It will be well to allow him to speak for himself, and to do this the words, which having served their immediate purpose, have lain buried for half a century must rise again.

The true value of works of fiction was thus set forth—

I am told that there are those who complain that we have introduced works of fiction too liberally into the library. Let me remind those who make this objection, that in the commencement of an institution like this we ought to remember to allure those who have never been accustomed to read. Before they can be induced to read, they must be taught to associate an idea of pleasure with reading. Everything is progressive. We must walk before we can run. The bird must be fledged before it can fly. The infant in knowledge must be nourished with milk before it can bear strong food. We look up with respect to our philosophers, who love knowledge for its own sake; but let them look down with indulgence upon us, who are searching about in the valley for the path which leads up to the mountains. Let them give us time, and we will try at last to creep up to them.

But, say our objectors, such books only fill the mind with false notions and opinions. Is, then, all fiction necessarily false? I think not. There is more truth in some fictions than in many histories. The persons and the events may be fictitious, but the characters, the feelings, the sentiments, and circumstances may be all true to nature, and so moulded as to leave a deeper impression upon the memory and a stronger influence upon the conduct than even truth itself. Let me ask those of you who have read in the *Antiquary* of Sir Walter Scott the story of the fisherman's funeral; if they can remember anything more affecting or more true? Is there not in the pages of our immortal Shakespeare more knowledge of human nature and more vivid pictures of human life than in any history which was ever written?

After combating in this manner the opinion more prevalent in former years than at the present time, that fact and fiction were synonymous with truth and untruth, good and evil, Mr Robinson enforced on a later occasion, in the following language the necessity of keeping up the standard of the books offered for general perusal:—

I have not unfrequently heard it said, we must have such and such books, because they attract subscribers and increase our funds. This reason alone is a very bad one. In the commencement of a scheme of this nature we must expect to find the public taste low; it will be our business to improve it. We shall never do this by pandering to a false appetite. We must have a high standard—not, indeed, too high—and try to raise our people to it—not lower our standard to their condition at the moment. We must stoop to meet them, and with strong hand bear them upwards, not sink ourselves down to their level. We shall do more to secure the sway of sound principles and correct opinions over the community by teaching them thoroughly to a few, and leaving them to make their own way, than by giving an erroneous education to the many.

Not content with recommending a large and varied selection of good books, Mr Robinson offered sound advice on the subject of how they should be used—advice certainly as much needed now as when the words were uttered—

Do you ask "How you shall read?" I reply briefly, do not flutter about from subject to subject, or from book to book. Do not constantly be running to the library to change your author, peeping between the pages of many but finishing none. I can assure you that a dozen volumes in the year read carefully, and thoroughly digested, will do far more to enstrengthen your judgment and inform your minds than a thousand works thus hastily turned over, leaving hardly a trace behind, and soon to be utterly forgotten. Choose specially some subject above the rest, and with the aid of the best work you can hear of try to master it. You may then become a kind of authority upon it, and will be enabled to give correct information about it to others who may by doing the same thing, perform in their turn the same good service to you. Not that I mean to confine you to a single subject only. I would advise you, on the contrary, so far as you have leisure and opportunity, to form a general acquaintance with several.

Samuel Robinson had received the highest and best education which the country at that day could supply to a Dissenter, and his natural abilities were of an order which enabled him to derive the greatest amount of benefit from it. It is not too much to say that, appreciating the profit and pleasure which he had himself derived, he made it the business of his life to endeavour to bring the blessings of education within the reach of the members of that numerous class who have to toil for their daily bread. More than fifty years ago he had come to the conclusion that it was the duty of the nation to place a useful education within access of the entire community. This seems no strange

doctrine at the present day, but half a century ago only men with unusual prescience advocated what many regarded as a dangerous step. Samuel Robinson was undoubtedly a pioneer in the cause of education. Let him speak for himself. In an address given in the year 1835 he said—

[The Sunday school], to the shame of our nation if it spoken, has been the only machinery as yet extensively set to work for the instruction of the people, and in the absence of more powerful means has proved of incalculable importance. But even its warmest friends must allow that, administered in the best manner, it can effect but little of what is required to satisfy the moral and intellectual demands of our immense and rapidly-increasing population. This is beginning generally to be perceived and acknowledged, and the better education of the people will, I am convinced, be the grand absorbing question of the next twenty years. Nothing short of a great national system will, I fear, meet the exigencies of the case.

Mr Robinson thus dealt with some of the objections which were brought forward by the opponents of education—

I think that there is not likely to be here anyone who regards with jealousy or mistrust the general diffusion of knowledge among the lower orders of society. I remember only two objections which have been urged against it; the one that it makes men conceited and above the labour which nature has imposed on the bulk of mankind; the other, that it leads them to meddle with high matters which they ought to be debarred from touching. There may be some ground for the first objection, when only a few are educated, so that education is a great distinction; but when all equally enjoy the advantage, the distinction ceases, and the effect must cease also. If all classes be equally raised, the relative proportion must remain the same. Besides the real tendency of knowledge, by making us feel how little can be known, is to produce humility,

Here shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,  
But drinking largely sobers us again.

Moreover, the necessity of labour which the majority must perforce undergo remains as before. And with regard to the second objection, it cannot surely be seriously maintained that any man is likely to be a worse citizen because his manners are rendered more mild and gentle, his tastes and feelings more elevated, and his principles and conduct more correct, and because he is better informed on his own rights and on those of society.

So far from apprehending a danger from the spread of knowledge, he foresaw that the real danger lay in the devolution of power (which indeed he concluded was inevitable) upon a class overwhelming in numbers, provided its members were suffered to remain steeped in ignorance.

The rapid growth of our manufactures has produced an immense increase of the population. This mighty physical power is capable of great good or great evil, according as it is directed. What is able to direct it to good except sound knowledge universally diffused? It is absolutely necessary that every class should understand its position in society—its dependence on others—its connection with the whole. Anything like revolution, sudden, and violent changes, nay, even a slight derangement, might cause the most fatal effects in a country circumstanced like ours.

The expression, "the diffusion of knowledge," is vague. Not a few persons were averse even to the teaching of reading, and many considered that the three R's should mark the limit beyond which it was not safe to go. The ideas of Mr Robinson may be gathered by reference to the scheme he propounded in connection with the village library at Dunkinfield, of night classes for the instruction of young persons of the working community who had passed the elementary stage. This proposal was made forty years ago, and it merits attentive examination. This was a scheme for the higher education of factory operatives and the young persons employed in the shops of a village. They had passed the day in toil, and their limited leisure was too precious, mind and body were too much exhausted with the labour of the day to employ them upon studies which severely taxed the memory, yielded small results for the amount of time employed, and were not directly of service in every day life. The study of Greek and Latin among the dead languages, and of French and German among the living ones, would certainly not be omitted from the curriculum of a liberal education, and Mr Robinson, a proficient in each of them as well as in many others, was of all men the least likely to overlook their value. But the hours, nay minutes available, after the indispensable labour of the day had terminated, were too precious to be spent in searching dictionaries, conjugating verbs and declining nouns. It was not expected that students would take more than a limited number of the subjects, and in no case could the whole be pursued.

1. The principles of morals and natural theology.
2. History, ancient and modern, particularly that of our own country, and with a special reference to the progress of civilisation, arts, laws, institutions, and manners.
3. Geography, particularly that of England and physical geography, with the elements of astronomy.
4. The higher arithmetic and elements of the mathematics—geometry, algebra, &c.

5. English grammar with the principles of English composition.

6. The history of literature, and especially that of England, with the elements of criticism, illustrated by readings from the best English authors.

7. The elements of political economy, with the history of manufactures, and the general principles of trade and commerce.

8. The elements of natural philosophy and mechanics, the theory of the steam engine, &c.

9. Natural history, geology, botany, &c.

10. The elements of drawing.

11. Vocal music.

During recent years considerable efforts have been made to improve the sanitary condition of towns, and some little has been done, and still more talked of, in the matter of the better housing of the poorer classes. Parks for the people and public recreation grounds are now by no means uncommon. All these ameliorations date from yesterday, yet the grand-parents of many a sturdy schoolboy were not born, when Samuel Robinson pointed out the way which has since been followed with more or less halting steps:—

I am not one of those who are at all satisfied with the state of our manufacturing districts, and I do not scruple to confess it. When I enter into the vast marts of our commercial industry, swarming with inhabitants, when I walk through long and wide-spread lines of mean and squalid dwellings, half-drained, half-ventilated, half-furnished, which form so considerable a portion of the streets; when I penetrate their close and noisome courts, when I think of life divided between unceasing toil and cheerless homes—of what ought to be the gay season of infancy and childhood passed with no happy recollections and associations to look back upon—of boyhood neglected and forlorn, unenlivened by variety of enjoyments, and exposed to all kinds of bad counsel and evil examples—of manhood plunged into unremitted labour, from which relaxation is sought only in low and sensual indulgences, and the noisy gaiety and total oblivion of intemperance—when I contemplate the gross ignorance and degrading influence in which huge masses are still involved, so many sunk into almost hopeless poverty; so many others constantly verging so nearly on that state that the slightest drawback or stoppage of their usual resources immediately plunges them into it; and this poverty and its privations made still more apparent and galling by the striking contrasts of unbounded wealth and luxury which are found in its immediate vicinity—when I see and reflect upon these unpleasant features which more or less characterise all our great towns, I own I am not surprised if the murmur of complaint is

often heard in the midst of them, swelling occasionally into loud remonstrance and angry denunciation. Nor I own am I astonished, that in seasons of more than usual depression numbers are to be found who, feeling strongly their misery or discomfort, not knowing the right causes, and studiously misdirected to the wrong ones by interested and designing men, are ready to resort to violence, and endeavours to put down by the strong hand the injustice of which they imagine themselves the victims. Now what is to be the remedy for a state of things alike fatal to the happiness of the individual and to the best interests of society? If it is not to be found in the wider spread of religious and moral feeling, in a better knowledge of the general laws which govern not merely the material universe but the whole physical condition of man, and in a more familiar acquaintance with the principles which determine his social position, to what other source of improvement will you look?

Again :

Man, by the condition of his existence, is exposed to many evils; but how considerably would the seeming mass be reduced, were all those deducted which are brought upon him by his own ignorance and bad conduct. To himself he owes as much of suffering as to the stern command of nature. If labour be appointed him as his heritage, labour will, I am persuaded, in every well-constituted society, always procure him the means of life. The difference of rank and fortune will probably always exist; poverty, it may be, will always be found; but pauperism, I am convinced, need not. Man, again, is liable to various maladies, but sickness is not his natural state. A proper attention to food—to exercise—to cleanliness—to ventilation—would drive to a distance, or keep at bay, a host of diseases. Nature governs not, as some may seem to think, capriciously, but for the most part by fixed and general laws. These laws cannot be violated with impunity.

Once more :

Consider how few amusements are left to our labouring population, amidst the toil, and the activity, and the strain of our busy commercial life. Yet amusement is an essential principle of our nature, and must be provided for. The bow which is never unbent, loses its spring, and the mind which is never relaxed, loses its vigour. The higher ranks complain, and justly enough, of the gross indulgences of the people; but complaint is idle, unless they come forward to encourage those of a more innocent and intellectual character. The stimulus after excessive toil must and will be had, and, unless it be otherwise provided, will be sought where it can be most immediately found—in the tavern and the beer-shop. Certain I am that with a little exertion and good-will much might be done to raise the taste and increase the amusements of the

people. Public walks and play grounds with bowls and gymnastics should be attached to our large towns. Our botanical gardens, our museums, our collections of natural history, our exhibitions of paintings, should be more frequently opened to the public; and music might be more efficiently used to delight the ear and refine the manners.

Social reform, like charity, should commence at home.

Those are not the real friends of the people who are constantly exciting their passions against the institutions of society as the cause of all the evils which surround them. Their truest friends are they who rouse their attention to the means of curing the many which lie within their own reach. Undoubtedly, in the institutions of society there is much that may be, and with the greater diffusion of sound principles will be, amended; but there is much also, very much, which may and ought to be done by yourselves. In this neighbourhood what sums are weekly wasted in the grossest sensuality, which, collected together and wisely employed, would open to you many a source of profitable instruction and refined enjoyment.

Mr Robinson recommended acquaintance with the elements of political economy. Speaking of the beneficial influence of capital upon the labourer, he puts the case thus :—

There appears to be an idea, more widely spread than many perhaps would acknowledge, or, indeed, are aware of, that in some way or other the accumulation of capital in large quantities is highly injurious to their interests. Now it would be very difficult, I think, to point out how this can possibly be. No man accumulates capital for the purpose of locking it up in a strong box. He naturally wishes it to yield him a profit, and he cannot by possibility obtain this without employing it, and he cannot employ it without employing labour also—additional labour to what he employed before. Labour, therefore, ought thus to become more valuable, but the labourer finds that the competition of capital with capital brings down the value of commodities, and he is prone, therefore, to imagine that it must tend also to reduce his wages. But how can this be the natural result? This competition may and often does reduce the profits of capital, but the competition to obtain labourers must tend to raise the wages of labour, and under ordinary circumstances actually does so. It is true that wages may decline at the same time with profits, and one may appear to be the cause of the other. But this is only an appearance. The fact is, that a fall of wages must really proceed from one of three reasons; either because capital is diminishing, and therefore cannot employ so many labourers; or because it is unprofitable, and therefore will not; or because the number of

labourers is increasing at a greater rate than capital—a very common and very satisfactory reason. But even in this last case, however low wages may fall, they would have fallen still lower had it not been for the increase of that fund out of which only labour can be paid—viz, capital. . . .

There are persons who are inclined to look upon capital as wealth, which having been derived originally from labour ought to be reserved as a fund for the use of the labourer, and returned to him in seasons of depression. But the fallacy lies here. All the capital which exists has unquestionably been originally the creation of labour. But of whose labour? Not always that of the present race of labourers. It is the accumulation of the toil and savings of many generations. And upon what principle of justice is the heir of an industrious and frugal line of ancestors not to enjoy without molestation and without envy that inheritance which they have bequeathed to him? Nay, the labourer himself is dependent upon this very capital for the full value of his own labour. Suppose every spinner and weaver in this country to have precisely all the knowledge of his art and all the skill which he has at present, of what worth would it be without capital to raise the cotton, to build ships and bring it over, to purchase and maintain the machinery which manufactures it, and to subsist the workman until the produce can find a market? And have not the men who have the talent to invent, to organise, to direct, and the energy and enterprise to undertake and bring to a successful issue great undertakings, a just right to a large share of the benefit? But it is insinuated that that share is too large. I believe that the more you examine you will doubt whether this be really the case, and be disposed rather to believe that the division is regulated by principles very equitable in themselves, and which cannot easily be put aside without much violence and injustice.

On the subject of competition he urges—

You never hear the artisan complain that the competition of the farmer with the farmer, or of the corn dealer with the corn dealer, reduces his flour; or that the competition of the merchant with the merchant, or the grocer with the grocer, gives him his sugar and his coffee at the lowest prices. He only complains when he thinks it affects his own particular employment. And then he does so, I presume, only because he supposes that it influences the amount of his wages. These, however, under ordinary circumstances, are regulated by quite a different rule, viz, the proportion between the supply of labourers and the demand for them, and the amount of the fund which can be spared for their maintenance. But suppose it were somewhat to reduce his wages—what

then? If every article he has to purchase with them is reduced in the same proportion, he is still as well off as before; if in a greater degree, he is actually benefited. It is high time that this notion of the injurious effects of competition upon the interests of the workman should be scattered to the winds. It is high time that he should accustom himself to look less at the money amount of his wages, and more at the amount of comforts they will purchase. If these are increasing, he is really better off. If they are lessening, his condition is becoming worse; and he will be in the right to look well to the reason.

How manly and truthful is the following sentiment:—

Charity is too often misdirected; the best charity is to teach men to put forth their strength, and to trust to their own efforts.

A limit must be imposed upon these quotations; Probably a sufficient number and variety have already been adduced to show that on social and economical questions Samuel Robinson was not only abreast, but in advance of his day. The spirit of the man not unfrequently took a higher flight, and his keen vision penetrated beyond the particular place and time in which he found himself. The following is an example:—

Man has been born, and he must as certainly die. What, then, becomes of him? Will he live again? revelation answers "Yes." But there are many who deny the truth of revelation. Yet all the facts and analogies of external nature and the human mind strongly support the same doctrine. Both the individual and the species begin existence in weakness and in imperfection; they advance continually more and more towards strength and excellence; they seem capable of almost unlimited improvement, yet they never reach perfection. Will what is not perfected here, be perfected in another state of being? Is not a faith so deeply interesting to man worthy of being examined? If it be true, is it not possible that, as progression is the order of nature here, it will continue to be so hereafter, and that the continual acquisition of new ideas and more enlarged views will form one of the principal sources of happiness in a future life? Be assured, however, that in the meantime it is one of the greatest sources of his happiness here. In his animal propensities man differs little from the brute; it is only in the cultivation of his moral and intellectual powers that he rises to the real dignity of his nature.

Wilmalaw.

ALFRED FRYER.

(To be continued.)

## PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY OF CHESHIRE.

## XIII.

Our last paper closed with the death of George II., an event which took place October 28th, 1760. He was succeeded by his grandson George III., having been created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester on the death of his father in 1751.

The auspices under which George III. ascended the throne were especially encouraging. The fame of the nation had never stood so high before, all danger from intestine commotion had ceased, and the spirit of Jacobitism was almost extinct. The King himself was young and energetic, remarkably affable and polished in his manner, and possessing the entire confidence of the nation; for, as he had never been out of England, his predilections were not at all German.

Although the fame of the nation was high in the matter of morals and religion it was in the most deplorable condition. Burnet describes the state of religion and intelligence in the nation at this period as most lamentable; the clergy as "dead and lifeless: the most remiss in their labours in private and the least severe in their lives" of all that he had seen amongst all religions at home or abroad; the gentry "the worst instructed and the least knowing of any of their rank that he ever went amongst;" and the common people beyond all conception "ignorant in matters of religion." The clergy, though much curbed in their malice towards the Dissenters, still continued to show that it existed. From the very passing of the Toleration Act to the accession of George III., tithes and church rates enabled them to plunder and imprison many of the Quakers. The treatment of Wesley and Whitefield, and their companions, was of the most disgraceful kind. These remarkable men might be said to be the landmarks raised by Providence to show that spiritual darkness, ignorance, bigotry, and decline of morals had reached their climax. It was at this era of darkness, depravity, and crime that the brothers Wesley and Whitefield came forward to preach a revival, and laid the foundation of Methodism—one of the most extraordinary instruments of religious, moral, and social regeneration which has appeared in any age of the world, and which not only stands as the far greatest fact of this particular period, but has operated in the great mass of the people an unparalleled life and elevation of mind and character, such as it is difficult to comprehend or calculate, and of which there are few who are fully aware.

In 1734 the Wesleys commenced their career as preachers to the people, and were soon followed by Whitefield, but their separation into distinct fields of labour was soon inevitable, from Whitefield embracing Calvinism and Wesley Arminianism. John Wesley had a peculiar genius for the construction of a new religious community, and he was ready to collect hints

for its organisation from any quarter. The most prolific source of his ordinances for his new society was the system of the Moravians, whose great settlement at Herrnhuth in Germany, he visited, and had much consultation with its head, Count Zinzendorf. From it he drew his class-meetings, love-feasts, and the like. In framing the constitution of his new society Wesley displayed a profound knowledge of human nature. The system of the Anglican establishment has this radical defect—it makes the hierarchy everything the laity nothing. Wesley saw this and avoided it. He took care that every man and woman in his society counted for something more than a mere unit. If an individual was not a wheel in the system, he was at least a cog in the wheel. The machinery of class-meetings and love-feasts brought members together in little groups, where everyone was recognised and had a personal interest, and numbers of men who had no higher ambition could enjoy the distinction of class-leaders, for it did not require a man to go to college and take orders to become a preacher. Such was the origin of that great body of Methodists, now divided into various sections, which has done so much for the people, before utterly left to a dreary heathendom, and by collateral action, so much for the general life of religion all over the Anglo-Saxon world. John Wesley died March 2, 1791, aged 86 years.

Of the genius of Great Britain, Young, Thomson, and Akenside still survived, and displayed strength, dignity, and luxuriance scarcely to be equalled. Johnson, Mason, Gray, and the two Whartons, besides a great number of other bards whose sportive vein in the same department has entitled them to a merited immortality. The genius of Cervantes was transfused into the novels of Fielding and Smollett, who painted the characters and ridiculed the follies of human life with equal propriety. The field of history was cultivated by such writers as Guthrie, Ralph, Carter, the learned and elegant Robertson, and, above all, the ingenious and penetrating Hume. Garrick surpassed all his predecessors in acting. Music was cultivated by the divine Handel, and painting and sculpture are nearly connected with the names of Reynolds, Hogarth, and Ramsay, Roubilliac, Rysbrack, and Wilton.

The Parliament in existence on the death of George II. was summoned to meet on November 18th, 1760, but beyond settling the civil list and granting new commissions to the judges, whose offices became vacant on the demise of the crown, no legislative matters were considered, as by law the Parliament ceased to exist six months after the king's death. On March 19th, 1761, the two Houses were prorogued, and on March 21st the House of Commons was dissolved. In a creation of peers made immediately following was Sir Richard Grosvenor, the senior member for Chester city in the last Parliament, was created Lord Grosvenor.

The general election took place soon after, and was conducted upon the same principles as in former years, bribing being the principal agent employed with large constituencies. As an example it may here be stated that in the election for two members to represent the citizens of Chester something like £30,000 was spent. At these elections a third party, under the title of "the king's friends," appeared in the field, and took an active part in the contest. The professed object of this party was to liberate their sovereign from what they considered Whig thralldom; and the mode most likely to effect that object, they naturally conceived, would be to deprive the Whigs of their prominence in the House of Commons. Of course they were obliged to seek for candidates among the Tories; but they professed to have no party except that of the people. These principles, backed by money, became popular in many districts; the result was that the Whigs found their influence shaken, and before the new Parliament met, began to tremble for their supremacy. The result in Cheshire was anything but satisfactory to "the king's friends;" in the county Egerton and Cholmondeley were returned, whilst at Chester the Grosvenor influence carried the day. The number of votes recorded was considerably less than at the previous election, the Conservative vote numbering 518, against 758 in 1747. It may be worthy of remark that a more popular Conservative candidate than Roger Barnston could not have been selected. Yet he was at the bottom of the poll with but 38 votes. The following is the return:—

1 GEORGE I.

Met November 3, 1761. Dissolved March 12, 1768.

CHESHIRE.—Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
Samuel Egerton of Tatton, esq.

CHESTER. — Thomas Grosvenor, esq.  
Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq.

The following was the result of the voting for Chester city:—

Thomas Grosvenor .....	W.	713
Richard Wilbraham Bootle.....	W.	626
John Crewe .....	C.	480
Roger Barnston.....	C.	38

All this time what is now historically known as the Seven Years' War with France and Spain was in progress. Dominica was captured in the West Indies; Bellisle, on the coast of Brittany, taken; and the fall of Pondicherry, in the East, destroyed the power of the French in India, as the conquest of Quebec and Montreal, two years before, had ruined their colonies in America. From Spain we took Havanna and Manilla. These losses tended to humble the allied powers, and resulted in the treaty signed at Paris February 10th, 1763. By this treaty France ceded to England the whole of Canada, with all its dependencies, together with Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and all her possessions

in America. In the West Indies she resigned Dominica, St. Vincent, Tobago, and Granada. In Africa she gave up Senegal and its dependencies, and in the East Indies she agreed to recognise the authority of the native rulers whom the English had set up, and to hold her settlements merely as depôts and places of trade. In order to recover Havanna and the Philippine Isles, Spain ceded to England the two Floridas, together with all the countries east and south of the Mississippi—a most important cession, as it left the North American colonies rounded and secured from the interference of foreign states.

In 1764 what may be termed as the foundation of the quarrel which ultimately resolved itself into the separation of the United States from English control, was the introduction of a bill into Parliament for making the American colonists defray a portion of the expenses for the protection of their commerce, it being urged that the late expensive war had been entered into chiefly on the American account. To this Benjamin Franklin and the other American agents replied, stating that the proper compensation to Britain for the expense of rearing and protecting her colonies was the monopoly of their trade, the absolute direction and regulation of which was universally acknowledged to be inherent in the British legislature. But the English Cabinet would not yield, but proceeded to the passing of the famous Stamp Act, March 22, 1765, whereby taxes on American imports were levied to an estimated value of £400,000. When Parliament reassembled in January, 1766, the question of colonial taxation was again brought before the House by Pitt, the result being that the obnoxious Stamp Act was repealed. A similar bill, however, was introduced and passed the following year.

This Parliament had now almost run the length of its tether, and the King and Parliament being unable to agree on the question of taxation, it was prorogued March 10, 1768, and dissolved two days after.

At the time this Parliament was dissolved society in England, politically considered, appeared to be in a state of dislocation; and those movements commenced which, after much agitation, produced, first the change of 1832, and subsequently the still more important ones of 1867 and 1885. At the period at which we are now arrived the population of the kingdom was between eight and nine millions: of that number not 200,000 were electors, and the people were literally no more represented in the House of Commons than the colonists of America, who protested against taxation without representation; consequently but few of the elections were determined by the popular voice. Probably more money was never spent in election contests than was spent at this time; and as an example the Chester election of 1761, already referred to, might be cited, when £30,000 was spent, and Lord



Chesterfield, in his *Letters to his Son*, written about this time, gives many other instances.

Coming to the returns, so far as Cheshire is concerned, the following members were returned for the county and city and county of Chester:

8, GEORGE III.

Met May 10, 1768. Dissolved September 30, 1774.

CHESHIRE.—Samuel Egerton, of Tatton, esq.  
John Crewe, of Crewe, esq.

Date of election, March 29, 1768.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.  
Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq.

Relating to the last-named event, the following interesting scrap is extracted from the *Chester Courant* of 118 years ago, that is under date March 21, 1768, which also fixes the time when the election took place:

On Friday last, Thomas Grosvenor and Richard Wilbraham Bootle, Esqrs., were elected members for this ancient city without opposition. Immediately after, they were carried through the principal streets, attended by great numbers of freemen, etc., with loud acclamations, and then adjourned to dinner at Mr Leech's, the *Plume of Feathers*, in Bridge-street, where a sumptuous and elegant entertainment was provided, and at which a numerous company of gentlemen attended. The day concluded with ringing of bells and every demonstration of joy, and a considerable sum of money was spent among the freemen upon the occasion.

It was to this Parliament that Wilkes, editor of the famous *North Briton*, was returned again and again for

Middlesex, during which occurred the memorable "Massacre of St. George's Fields." EDITOR.

## Replies.

STRINGER, THE STOCKPORT CLOCK MAKER.

I venture to tell Mr Norbury (*ante* 112) that his old clock was not one of the old school in his youthful days, but one of the latest improved clocks, having only one weight to work going and striking parts; he loses no time in being wound up as all the old two-weight clocks of his day did. I have not the inventor's name at hand just now. There is an old eight day clock in Morley that has an inscription inside the works, "Stringer, Stockport, 1742." There are several older clocks than this in the neighbourhood. One of the name of Henry Burgess I should think was made before 1700; another, Benjamin Royle, Wilmslow. Perhaps Mr Norbury can tell us something about these being Wilmslow names. T. WHITEHEAD.  
Wilmslow.

## Queries.

COWPER, WILLIAM.—A surgeon of this name practised at Chester at the close of last century. He wrote a *Life of St. Werburgh*, published in 1749, said to have been stolen from the MSS. of Mr Stone. He had also prepared materials for histories of the city and county of Chester, but death prevented the completion of his labours. Can any reader of *Cheshire Notes and Queries* say what became of this MSS.?

CESTRIAN.

~~~~~  
SATURDAY, MAY 22, 1886.

## Notes.

RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.  
VIII.

Mr Samuel Barrett, one of our early cotton manufacturers, was born in the year 1786, of respectable parents of the operative class. At an early age he was sent to work in the cotton mill, and, like most of the youths of that time, received what little education he got at the Sunday and night schools. When a youth he resolved, by industry, thrift, and economy, to make his way in the world, and leave it if possible better than he found it. This resolve he carried out in his after

extraordinary long life. By steady attention to his occupation he became when quite a young man an overlooker in the cotton mill. In the year 1830 he was renting several rooms in Mr Brentnall's mill, Higher Hillgate. Whilst there his business was to card, spin, and prepare rovings for the jenny spinners. Mr Barrett must have prospered whilst there, for in the year 1823 we find him established in the Bury-street Mill, Lancashire-hill, spinning and manufacturing cotton throughout. This old cotton mill stands in a rather obscure locality. The entrance and the larger portion of the mill are in the small thoroughfare called Berry-street, whilst another portion abuts on Penny-lane

and overlooks the pleasant valley of Grimes-bottom, with the river Tame meandering its course to join the Goyt, the junction of the two forming the source of the river Mersey near the old Portwood Bridge. A well-executed painting representing this beautiful valley may be seen painted on the wall in the bar parlour of the Woodman Inn, Heaton-lane, which was painted by one of Stockport's best artists, the late Mr Shuttleworth, who lived in Churchgate, in or near the present Girls' Industrial Schools. Mr Shuttleworth died about the year 1829, and was interred in Northenden Churchyard.

In the year 1830, the year after the great strike, some of the mills were running night and day, and the Bury-street Mill was one of them. One of Mr Barrett's overlookers, whose name was Martin Bredbury, lived opposite our house in Heaketh-street. Martin, like the rest of Mr Barrett's overlookers, had to work during the night every alternate week. He had a son William, about the same age as myself, whose duty it was to take his father's supper to the mill, and I often accompanied him on this errand. Mr Bredbury was a good neighbour. I believe that he was upright in all his dealings, was a temperate man, loved his home, and provided well for his family; still he held very curious views regarding religion, and had a great abhorrence of parsons of whatever denomination. Mr Bredbury had a painting hung on the wall of his sitting room which he prized very much. This picture was painted by some local man, I won't say artist, for there was nothing like art about it, at the dictation of Mr Bredbury. This picture was intended to show that the hog was the only true English gentleman, and was represented in seven tableaux. I have seen this picture many times, but it always appeared to me as hieroglyphics, excepting one tableau. This represented a parson being surrounded by a litter of pigs, and he appeared to be getting the worst of it. Mr Bredbury was a steady, good workman, and he worked for Mr Barrett up to a few weeks before his death, which took place about the year 1837. Before his death he suggested how he should like his funeral to be conducted. He desired to be buried in the Cheadle Churchyard, and he wished to be carried there by eight persons, whom he named, myself being one of them. There must be no coaches, and all who attended the funeral he wished would do so in their ordinary apparel. These injunctions were almost carried out, excepting the apparel; I noticed that most of us wore black gloves, a very

uncommon appendage to our ordinary dress in those days. This funeral took place on a very hot autumnal afternoon. There had been no rain for some time, a westerly wind was blowing in our faces, and before we had got to half our journey's end we were so covered with dust that it would have plagued anyone to tell what colour our clothes originally were. At last we arrived at our journey's end, and the funeral service was gone through very decorously. Afterwards we adjourned to a neighbouring hostelry, and got something to rinse the dust down our throats.

Soon after Mr Bredbury's funeral another funeral *cortege* went from Stockport to Cheadle. On this occasion all the mourners rode in coaches, excepting the four carriers, who walked two abreast each side the hearse. The driver of the hearse was a well-known sexton belonging to our mother church. All went off well until the return journey commenced; then came on a tremendous thunder-storm, and these poor carriers were soon drenched to the skin. The storm increased in violence, and the rain came down in torrents, and the poor carriers had three miles of a walk before them, and there was much murmuring amongst them. At this juncture one of them hit upon what he conceived to be a bright idea: that was that they should ask permission to ride inside the empty hearse. Their desire was made known to the jolly old grave digger, who, with a roguish twinkle in his eye, willingly granted their request. The funeral *cortege* halted while these poor half-drowned fellows crept into the hearse. They had not proceeded far however, before a violent commotion took place inside the hearse. Another halt took place, and the driver came down from his seat, opened the hearse door, and demanded from the inmates what that row was about. They told him that they were almost smothered for want of air, and they wished that he would leave the hearse door open a little, and he must be sure to discharge his cargo when he arrived at Brinksway. The sexton told them that he would attend to their wishes. He again mounted his box, and the procession again started on its homeward journey amidst the pelting rain. Joseph Smith, that was the driver's name, drove along without any more interruption until he came to the Lancashire-bridge. Here he halted and got off his seat again, and with the utmost sangfroid went to the rear of the hearse and commenced to untie the string which he had fastened to the hearse door to prevent it flying wide open. He had tied this string with a knot, whether intentionally I don't know;

he was fumbling a long time in untying the string, and the crowd round the hearse kept growing larger and larger, all eager to see what sort of a cargo Smith had got to unload at that unlikely place. During this time the execrations proceeding from inside the hearse grew strong and stronger, amongst them being "Cut the string, tha foo'"; "What hast brow't us this far for?" At last the string was untied, and Smith unloaded his hearse amidst the acclamations of the crowd standing by, to the astonishment of scores of onlookers. Joseph Smith, the once popular sexton, died a few weeks ago at a very advanced age.

Mr Barrett worked the Bury-street Mill from 1822 until about the year 1856, and during that long period I never heard of a dispute taking place between him and his workpeople. He was twice married. By his first wife he had a son James, who was a very clever mechanic, and he was a companion to Mr Joseph Axon, mentioned in a former paper. Mr James Barrett rendered good service in assisting Mr Axon in making and fitting up the mechanical exhibits at the grand exhibition at the Mechanics' Institute in the year 1840. Mr James Barrett was cut off in the prime of life. He died on April 17th, 1852, in the 34th year of his age, and was interred in the Christ Church burial ground. Mr Samuel Barrett lived a retired gentleman in a house near the Grammar School up to his death. He died on March 4th, 1877, aged 91 years. He rests in a vault in the Christ Church yard.

Stockport

JOHN GREENHALGH.

## Replies.

### THE MURDER OF MR. WILLIAM WOOD, AT DISLEY, IN 1823.

Having read the interesting sketch on the above incident (*ante* 81), in which I see there appears to be some little doubt as to the exact date it occurred, I consulted the file of the *Stockport Advertiser* at the Free Library. Here I ascertained not only the date of the occurrence, but was able to trace the case from the announcement of the first brief paragraph to the trial and execution. In addition to this there are many items of interest that I have come across, that not only corroborate all the previous writer states, but is illustrative also of the state of society sixty years ago. The first extract is taken from the *Stockport Advertiser*, dated July 18, 1823, and is as follows:—

**HIGHWAY ROBBERY AND MURDER.**—On Wednesday last, about seven o'clock, Mr William Wood, of Eyam, Derbyshire, was discovered robbed and murdered by the road side, between Disley and Whaley-Bridge, on his return from Manchester Tuesday's market. This atrocious murder, there is every reason to suppose, was committed by three men, dressed in sailor's clothes, who were observed to follow him through Disley, up the old road; both parties having, it appears, previously met by accident at a public-house, in How-Lane. Mr W. having refreshed himself, (being on foot,) left the house, and was followed in about ten minutes by the three men, who taking the same road, came up with him within a short distance of Whaley, where he was found—his pockets turned inside out, and his head beaten in the most dreadful manner possible. The villains, not content with their own bludgeons, had even taken the stones from the wall, and used them for their hellish purpose; as a large basketful have been picked up, and removed along with the body to the Cock Inn, for the decision of the Coroner's jury. Mr W. is a married man, about 30 years of age, and has a family of three children; and there is too much reason to fear the murderers have had a considerable booty, as he received a large sum in Manchester, though he had paid several accounts on the day of the murder, one to a gentleman in this town. We had forgot to state that the unfortunate man, when found, was buried under the stones of the wall, which they had pulled upon him to conceal him. No trace has yet been made of the assassins, though they were observed to take the road leading to Buxton.

In the *Advertiser* for July 25 is the report of the inquest on Mr Wood. This I give *in extenso*, as follows:—

#### INQUEST ON MR WOOD, OF EYAM.

On Saturday, an inquest was held at the house of Mr Sykes, the Cock Inn, Whaley, before John Hollins Esq., Coroner, and a respectable Jury, on the body of this unfortunate man, who, as we stated in our last, was found barbarously murdered, on the previous Wednesday evening, about half-past seven, on his return from Manchester Tuesday's market, whither he had attended as a cotton-manufacturer, and had received, as near as can be ascertained, £100, no part of which was found upon him. Upon the view of the body, the head of this poor creature presented such a shocking instance of savage cruelty that we could not have imagined so terrible a sight possible in a civilized country, being literally covered with gore, from the numerous deadly wounds which had been inflicted upon him. The nature of the evidence produced before a jury, we are sorry to say, has not been such as to lead to the apprehension of the two men still at large, notwith-

standing the extraordinary exertions of G. W. Newton, Esq., of Taxal Lodge, who, on Thursday, had caused a man, answering the description of one of them, to be apprehended in Manchester, and lodged in the New-Bayley Prison; but the other two had disappeared from the public-house where they had been drinking together, just before the arrival of the officers, and have not since been heard of. The man taken was on Friday morning examined, when he confessed to have participated in the robbery, but denied being concerned in the murder.—After his business in the Court was concluded, Mr Lavender went down to the apartment in which the prisoner was confined, when he discovered that the poor guilty wretch had hanged himself on the stove-pipe, having taken off his stockings, and contrived to twist them into a kind of rope. He was immediately taken down, and surgical assistance procured. At first with hopes of success, for the spark of life was not quite extinct; and he so far recovered that he remained alive till Sunday noon, when he died. He gave his name as Bradley; but his real one was Taylor, and was a native of Old-field Lane, Salford. A coroner's inquest was on Monday evening held on the body, and a verdict of *Felo-de-se* returned. He was disposed of according to the new Act of Parliament.

The following examinations were taken:—

*John Johnson*, of Disley, stonemason, sworn.—I live near the Bull's Head Inn, on the old road, between Disley and Whaley, about a mile from the place where the body was found. About seven o'clock last Wednesday evening, I saw two young men going towards Whaley; and behind them (at about 18 or 20 yards distance) the deceased, and another man, going the same way:—the first two had dark coloured coats on, were below the middle size, and appeared about 18 or 19 years of age;—the man with the deceased had a light coloured coat, a jacket, and trowsers of the same colour;—he was taller than the other two. They were all going towards the place where the deceased was found.

*Joseph Hadfield*, of Disley, sworn. I live on the side of the old road between Disley and Whaley. On Wednesday evening last, about seven o'clock, I was standing at my door, and observed the deceased walk by, towards Whaley, with an umbrella in his right hand, and a bundle, or basket, on his left arm;—about two or three minutes afterwards I saw three young men walking after him; I cannot recollect their dress. The distance from my house to the place where the body was found is about a quarter of a mile, and they were all going in that direction.

*Edmund Pott*, of Kettleshulme, labourer, sworn.—On Wednesday evening last I was returning back

from Stockport with my cart and horse. I returned along the old road from Disley to Whaley. When I came opposite to William Goodwin's house, (which is about a quarter of a mile from the road,) I saw the body of the deceased, lying by the lower side of the road, quite dead, but warm; the blood then still flowing from the head. It could not have been dead many minutes. It was then about eight o'clock. The head was very ill cut, and very bloody. Several stones lay at the back of the head, and they were very bloody. I lifted the body up, and brought it in my cart to the Cock Inn, in Whaley. Blood ran from the body in the cart.

[The stones were produced; they were pieces of rock stone, were all very bloody, with hair still sticking to them; one was of an oblong shape, and had the appearance of bloody finger marks at one end.]

*John Mellor*, who was with the last witness, confirmed his testimony.

*Thomas Etchells*, of Whaley, sworn.—About half-past seven, or twenty minutes before eight, (as near as I can judge,) last Wednesday evening, I was coming very slowly along the old road from Whaley to Disley, when I saw three men running along the road towards Whaley. When they came within about forty yards of me, they ceased running, and walked; one of them asked me, how far it was to Chapel-en-le-Frith. I replied "four miles." One of them said "thank you, Sir." As soon as they passed me, they ran again, and continued to run till I ceased to look after them. One of the men was a little taller than the other two; he wore a jean jacket, and had trowsers of the same. On his left arm, between the shoulder and the elbow, I saw a mark four or five inches long, the colour of blood. The other two were rather lower than the other, and of about the same size as each other; they had darkish coats, and one had lightish coloured trowsers, narrow stripe; they were all very young men. The place where I first saw these men is about half a mile from the place where the deceased was found, and they were running in a direction from that place.

*John Johnson*, of Whaley, wheelwright, sworn.—On Wednesday evening last, about 8 o'clock, I was standing at the side of the smithy, at Whaley, opposite the end of the old road from Disley. I saw three men running down that road towards me. I concluded they were running a race. They ran about a quarter of a mile in my sight; and ceased to run when they got near the Whaley Toll Gate. They went along the road towards Buxton. Two of the men were about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, had dark coloured coats; I took them to be blue, I cannot say whether they had trowsers or not. The other man

was about two or three inches taller, had on a light coloured jacket like jean, and trowsers of the same colour, with a white apron round his waist. He was thin. They all appeared about twenty years of age.

*William Beard*, of Disley, labourer, confirmed the last witness.

*Henry Scott*, toll bar-keeper, at Whaley, sworn.—On Wednesday evening last, between seven and eight o'clock, I saw three young men after they had passed a few yards through the bar;—they were walking quick, along the road towards Buxton. They were of a moderate size, but I cannot say whether one was taller than the other. One had a jacket and trowsers on, both light coloured; and he was without stockings. On the leg of his trowsers, towards the bottom, I saw blood, as well as upon his leg below the trowsers. The coats of the other two were dark coloured.

*William Wright*, of Disley, surgeon, sworn.—I have examined the body of the deceased and find ten wounds on the head—three on the forehead and seven at the back. They are made by some blunt instrument. One blow on the back of the head has fractured the skull in three directions; the one an inch and a half long, and the others rather less; part of the skull is forced into the brain. This wound is calculated to produce instant death. The four stones now produced, or any of them, would inflict such wounds as I have found upon the deceased.

No other evidence appearing to identify the murderers, the Jury returned a verdict of *wilful murder* against some person or persons unknown.

In the next issue is the following interesting paragraph:—

**THE LATE MR WOOD OF EYAM.**—On Sunday last, after a short notice given in the Sunday Schools of Disley, and the neighbouring places, an excellent and appropriate sermon was delivered by the Rev. Luke Barlow, of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection, of New Mills, on the spot where the unfortunate Mr Wood, of Eyam, was so barbarously and inhumanly put to death, from the very suitable text, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh." Matt. c. 24, v. 44. The scholars belonging to the Disley and Furness Sunday Schools met at the place about five o'clock in the evening; and their admirable and exemplary behaviour on this memorable occasion justly entitles them to their well-earned praise. It is calculated that there were not less than 2000 persons present. After the sermon a collection was made for the widow of this unfortunate man, amounting to the sum of £4 10s. 4d.; a very hand-

some sum considering the class of the population of the neighbourhood.

Under date August 8 appears the following:—

It is worthy of notice that Charles Taylor, who assisted in the murder of Mr Wood, and afterwards hung himself in the New Bailey, Manchester, on the 18th ult. as mentioned in our last, had been confined in Chester Castle six months for felony, and was only liberated the day before the horrid murder was committed. Whilst under confinement he was thought by some of the discriminating part of his fellow prisoners to be a very evil disposed youth.—*Chester Guardian*.

In the issue for August 15:—

**APPREHENSION OF A MURDERER.**—On Monday Joseph Dale, one of the murderers of Mr Wood, of Eyam, apprehended on Friday last, at Liverpool, on board the ship *Mary*, of Great Yarmouth, by Mr Lavender, Deputy Constable, of Manchester, underwent an examination before G. W. Newton, Esq., at the Cock Inn, Whaley. None of the witnesses who saw the three men running from the place, when the murder of Mr Wood was committed, could identify the prisoner; but he was fully sworn to by a hatter of Macclesfield, at whose shop he had bought a hat, as well as the person from whom he had bought new clothes for himself and accomplice.—A shoemaker of the same town, deposed that the prisoner after buying a pair of shoes from him had offered to give his son the clothes that were afterwards left in Macclesfield—and that he had told him that he had just received a small fortune left him by a relative.—Mr Frost, Deputy Constable of Macclesfield, said he had seen the prisoner with Taylor and another at the Red Lion public house, Macclesfield, on the morning after the murder had been committed. When called on for his defence, the prisoner said he had been travelling with Taylor and Platt on the road to Chapel-en-le-Frith—that they met with Mr Wood, who, after walking some time with them, offered to pay for something to drink—that Platt then gave him (prisoner) six-pence, and told him to go on and wait for him and Taylor at the next public-house, about a mile off—and he waited there above an hour and half for them, and as he was leaving the public-house he saw them running towards him, with their clothes stained with blood, and to his enquiry "what had been to do," they only answered, "*Come along*"—that he went with them to Macclesfield and Manchester, where they parted, and that he had never heard of them since.—The prisoner was fully convicted by the worthy Magistrate, and taken back to Manchester by Mr Lavender, from whence he was conveyed to Chester Castle on Tuesday. When first taken into custody

at Liverpool, he denied any knowledge of the transaction; in the course of the day, however, he related the circumstances of the robbery and murder, and admitted that he had received from John Bratt, alias Platt, three £1 notes and 7s, out of the money taken from Mr Wood.

Dale was brought up for trial at the Chester Assizes, which commenced its sittings August 21, before Chief Justice Warren. The case came on for hearing on Monday, the 25th, before a special jury. The counsel for the prosecution were the Attorney-General (Mr Hill) and Mr Park, the prisoner being defended by Mr D. F. Jones and Mr Law. It was half-past five before the learned judge commenced summing up, and eventually the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty." Sentence was deferred until the following Friday, in order to allow the respective counsel to argue certain flaws in the indictment, when one of the judges decided against them, and the other for them. Dale thereupon was respited until the next assizes, to allow of the matter being brought before the twelve judges.

The closing scene is thus recorded in the *Stockport Advertiser* of Friday, April 23, 1824:—

#### JUDGEMENT UPON JOSEPH DALE.

Monday morning Dale was brought up for judgment. On Friday last, he had a serious attack, and on Saturday he was considered to be in such a dangerous state as to render it doubtful whether he could survive. For a considerable time, he was in convulsive fits, and only at short intervals had the exercise of his faculties. During a great part of Sunday, he was in a no less afflicted and dangerous condition, and it required several persons at times to hold him. He was, however, assisted to dress, and at ten minutes past eight o'clock, soon after the Judges had taken their seats on the bench, led up and supported to the dock by two individuals. After a short interval, he was ordered to stand up in front of the bar; but appearing incapable of such an effort, he knelt down on a ledge under it placed for the convenience of prisoners, while Mr Dunstan, the governor, sustained him with both his hands. The Chief Justice then addressed him to the following effect:—

"Joseph Dale—You were tried here last Assizes, indicted with Joseph Platt, and charged with casting stones at a person of the name of Wood, and inflicting upon him mortal wounds of which he instantly died, on the 16th of July last. Platt was not in custody, and Taylor, the other associate of your guilt, had run a period to his own existence. You, therefore, was the only person upon whom guilt could be proved, and it was then the duty of the court to pass upon you the awful sentence of the law; but your counsel, Mr Jones, and Mr Law, took

an objection to the proper wording of the indictment, and the court thought fit, upon the doubts it entertained on those objections, and especially where the life of an individual was concerned, to respite the sentence, in order to take the opinion of the Judges. The Judges have delivered that opinion, which was that the indictment was right, and that decision has been communicated to you in the usual way. The learned Judge who assisted me upon your trial, but who is now no more, was clearly of opinion that the only conclusion at which the jury could arrive, was a verdict of guilty; and the Judge now beside me, is anxious I should state, that having carefully read over the examinations on the trial, he is perfectly satisfied, that the Jury could find no other verdict. It appeared by the evidence, that Wood was murdered, that the wall near which he lay, was stained with blood, and that the stones, with which the murder was committed, and which were brought into court, bore marks of blood also. A more barbarous and inhuman transaction was scarcely ever known. You were seen walking with Wood; and after the deed, you were seen running away with the other culprits: you were traced with them on the road; then found with them at Macclesfield; upon your person a portion of the effects of the deceased were found; for it is clear a robbery as well as a murder was committed; and it was proved you were going from shop to shop purchasing articles of wearing apparel. You prevaricated, you told stories in accounting for your share in the transaction, and these, with other facts connected with the case, leave no doubt whatever of your guilt. I think therefore, with the other Judge beside me, that it would be unfair and unjust not to let the law have its course. Young as you are, unhappily you have associated yourself with the most abandoned characters, and ruin has been the consequence. The length of time you have had since you were found guilty, has furnished you with an opportunity of looking seriously into the course of your past life, and repenting of your crimes. Every spiritual instruction has been afforded you; and I earnestly recommend you to pass the few hours that yet remain to you in this world, in prayer and humble supplication to heaven.—The sentence of the court is, that you be taken from hence to the place of execution on Wednesday next, and be hanged till you are dead, and that your body be dissected. And may the Lord have mercy upon your soul."

During the Judge's address, the silence of death prevailed; the scene was awfully impressive; and many and many a tear gemmed the eye of the attentive auditors. After he had been borne across the yard to his last earthly depository in this world, we understand, he expressed his entire submission to the fate that awaited him, declaring that he had no fear in the contemplation of dissolution.

In the same issue is an account of the execution, as follows:—

#### EXECUTION OF DALE.

Wednesday morning at about five o'clock, this unfortunate young man was delivered up by the Sheriff of the County to the Sheriffs of the city, to be executed according to his sentence. During the previous night he enjoyed sound repose for about an hour and a half—Mr Keeling sat up with him.—Before he slept he was particularly anxious to be awake again at three o'clock, "because, you know," said he to Mr Keeling, "we should devote as much as possible of our time to devotion." Early as was his removal from the County gaol to the city many persons were there to witness his transit, and with as many as came within his reach he cordially shook hands, bidding them an affectionate farewell. He did not appear so badly in health as was generally expected. Arrived at the city gaol, the whole morning was spent in conversation and devotional exercises with Mr Keeling, in which Dale gave Mr Keeling well-grounded assurances of his hope in death, and expressed his surprise that death could be met with so much happiness as he then felt in its contemplation. As the time for the execution began to approach, Dale expressed an anxiety almost amounting to impatience for the arrival of the officers, and as soon as they arrived he begged to be immediately led out to the place of execution, which request was complied with, by which means the execution was over earlier than usual, notwithstanding which a great crowd of spectators was present. According to the declarations of Dale made at a time when he could have no earthly motive for concealing the truth or uttering a falsehood, he was not the actual murderer of Mr Wood. He says that he had little or no previous acquaintance with the two men he met with on the road, Taylor and Platt, (the latter name he says should be Pratt, a person who was discharged from the castle of Chester only a few days before,) and he believes that when they overtook Mr Wood, none of them contemplated murder, and if robbery was contemplated by the others it was unknown to him. When he saw them use Wood roughly, he begged of them to desist, and was answered by a threat that they would serve him the same way. He then attempted to leave them but was threatened again, and by threats and ridicule was induced to remain in their company, partake of their booty, and be, as it appeared on the trial, their servant. The sum of four shillings and sixpence is all the other two allowed him of the spoil. He says he was not aware Wood was killed for some time after. Wood had engaged him as a workman.—Thus terminated the short career of this (we have reason to believe) amiable young man. B.

#### OLD PLAY BILLS OF STOCKPORT.

IV.

#### THEATRE, STOCKPORT.

#### FOR THE BENEFIT OF MR ROBINSON,

WHO most respectfully solicits the Patronage of the Ladies and Gentlemen of Stockport and its Vicinity. This present FRIDAY Evening, November 29th, 1822, will be performed Dimond's admired Play of

#### THE FOUNDLING OF THE FOREST ;

*Or, the Unknown Female,*

With all the Songs and Duets.—End of the Play, a MASONIC ADDRESS, to be spoken by Brother Robinson.—A Comic Dance, by Mr Collier.—A Comic Bagatelle, called THE BARBER'S PETITION, with his Whimsical Defence of Whigs; particularly the Lover's Whig—the Counsellor's Whig—the Doctor's Whig—the Coachman's Whig, and his own Whig, to be recited and sung by Mr Hall. The whole to conclude with the new popular Melo-Drama, (the first time of its being performed in this Theatre) with new Scenery, Machinery, &c., called

#### THE MILLER'S MAID,

Taken from Bloomfield's beautiful Poem of that name.

\*.\* Tickets to be had of Mr ROBINSON, at the Unicorn Inn, and at the usual places.

*Great Novelty.—Two New Pieces, never acted here.*

#### MRS. HOWARD

Has the honour to inform her Friends and the Public, that her BENEFIT is fixed for MONDAY next, when she hopes to experience that support it has ever been her study to merit; every possible care has been taken to get up these pieces, and she feels confident they will give satisfaction.

On MONDAY Evening, December 2nd, 1822, will be produced (for the first time in this Theatre) the new and popular Musical Drama, (in three acts) called

#### THE PIRATE,

Taken from the celebrated Novel of that name.

#### COMIC SINGING, BY MR HALL.

The whole to conclude with an entirely-new grand Melo-Drama, called

#### THE BLOOD-RED KNIGHT ;

*Or, the Fatal Bridge.*

\*.\* Tickets to be had of Mrs HOWARD, at Mr Lowry's St. Peter's Gate, and at the usual places.

#### MR AND MRS SMYTHSON'S NIGHT.

Mr and Mrs S. with the utmost deference, inform the Ladies, Gentlemen, and Public in general of Stockport and its Vicinity, that their BENEFIT is appointed for WEDNESDAY, and they trust that the Amusements selected for that purpose are such as will meet with general approbation and support.

On WEDNESDAY Evening, December 4th, 1822, will be presented the grand Tragedy of  
ALEXANDER THE GREAT ;

*Or, The Rival Queens.*

End of the Play, a COMIC SONG by Mr HALL.

After which, the favourite Interlude, called  
QUARTER DAY; OR, HOW TO PAY RENT  
WITHOUT MONEY.

The whole to conclude with the grand Melo-Drama,  
(not acted here these 8 years) called

TEKELI;

*Or, The Siege of Montgatz.*

\*.\* Tickets to be had of Mr and Mrs SMYTHSON, at  
Mr TURNER's, near the Fleece, Chestergate, and at the  
usual places. THESPIAN.

# RECTORS OF SANDBACH.

| Instituted.         | Rectors.                                                                      |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Before 1128 .....   | Steinulphus, pr' b'r.                                                         |
| .....               | Roger de Lech.                                                                |
| 1330.....           | Thomas, parson of Sonbache, witness to<br>a charter of lands in Church Hulme. |
| Instituted.         | VICARS OF SANDBACH.                                                           |
|                     | Vicars.                                                                       |
| Before 1327 .....   | Dnl. Rici Burgillon                                                           |
| 1327 April 7th..... | Phus de Castro Godricl                                                        |
| 1344 January .....  | Wills de Mere                                                                 |
| 1348 July 9th ..... | Thomas Chaumpain                                                              |
| 1349 .....          | Dnl. Willi de Welton                                                          |
| 1349 October .....  | Johes de Tydrinton                                                            |
| 1372 March .....    | Ranulphus del fford                                                           |
| 1401 October .....  | Dns. Thomas de Hassale                                                        |
| 1418 September ...  | Dns. Thomas Hassale                                                           |
| 1455 May .....      | Dns. Jacobus Whiteacrus                                                       |
| 1465 September ...  | Dns. Ranulphus Penketh                                                        |
| 1479 March .....    | Dns. Rog's Clifton                                                            |
| 1530 .....          | Dnl. Hugonis Brereton                                                         |
| 1535 September ...  | Dns. Thomas Smyth                                                             |
| 1548 May .....      | Dns. Petrus Prestland                                                         |
| 1576 May .....      | Johes Shawe                                                                   |
| 1594 August 27th    | George Downham, M.A.                                                          |
| 1615 .....          | Lawrence Wood                                                                 |
| 1730 Nov. 16th ...  | Thomas Tudman                                                                 |
| 1734 June 15th ...  | William Heyes                                                                 |
| 1665 March 19th...  | Thomas Welles, A.M.                                                           |
| 1699 May 13th.....  | Hugh Mee, A.M.                                                                |
| 1723 April 13th ... | Samuel Allen                                                                  |
| 1736 Sept. 25th ... | Blaney Baldwin, A.M.                                                          |
| 1740 March 13th     | Henry Baldwin, A.B.                                                           |
| 1773 April 21st ... | Peter Haddon, A.M.                                                            |
| 1787 Jan. 15th ...  | Richard Lowndes Solmon, A.M.                                                  |
| 1828 .....          | John Armitstead, M.A.                                                         |
| 1865 October .....  | John Richard Armitstead, M.A.                                                 |
| Sandbach.           | H. PARKER.                                                                    |

# Replies.

## STOCKPORT CLOCKMAKER.

Will you kindly allow me to reply through your paper to Mr Norbury's interesting query. It was very interesting to me, more so because I have spent hours over a clock by the same maker. It resembles in every respect the one Mr Norbury describes, and bears the same inscription on its brass face, "Stringer, Stockport." I have examined it several times to find a date or the year in which it was made, but have failed, only to find myself in the same fog as Mr Norbury. But no doubt he will be pleased to know that there is another clock such as he represents his to be in make and time-keeping. It was bought by my grandfather, Josiah Gaskill (formerly of Styal), about fifty years ago, from a man at Bollington of the name of Otterill. He always took great interest in the old clock, and I have often heard him say that it must be at least one hundred years old, and that it was the best clock he had in the house (and he had a few by modern makers). I have heard him say that he knew a firm in Stockport of the name of Stringer, clockmakers, but he could not say whether it was the same firm that made this one. It is now in the possession of my mother, eldest daughter of Josiah Gaskill, and I understand that at some future time it is to come into my possession. I shall feel very proud, after the enlightenment Mr Norbury has thrown upon it. Mother says it looks no older than it did the first day she saw it, and it still continues to number out our days as it has done for generations past. I have not been able to give Mr Norbury much information, but I am sure he will be glad to know that there is another of the old school still in existence.—Yours truly,

Bollington Cross.

ISAAC WOOD.

It may be of interest to your correspondents, Messrs Norbury and Wood, to know that I also have a clock bearing on its brass face the name of "Stringer, Stockport." I bought it some fifteen years ago at Altrincham, and a better timeist it would be difficult to find. Whoever Stringer was, or whenever he flourished, he seems to have understood his business

HARRY A. HIGNETT, M.A., Oxon.

Ringway Vicarage, 12th May, 1886.

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SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1886.

# Notes.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

IX.

In my last paper I referred to the good feeling which existed between Mr Samuel Barrett, of Bury-street Mill, and his employes for a long period; in-

deed this amicable feeling existed until the time Mr Barrett retired from the business. In support of this I may say that the following is the copy of an address which was presented by his workpeople, and that it conveyed the true sentiments of his workpeople:—



Address of the Workpeople  
employed in the mill of  
Samuel Barrett, Esquire,  
Lancashire Hill, Heaton Norris, Stockport.

Respected Sir,

The path of life, though sometimes weary and obstructed, has been and still is travelled by millions of the human race, but their circumstances move on in such a countless variety that it requires the operation of a noble, powerful, and energetic mind, partially to develop by what rule their actions ought to be regulated.

The numerous manifestations of your pleasure, relative to the duties which your workpeople have performed while they have been engaged in your employ, have tended to rouse and bring into action those bitter feelings which have been matured by the urbanity and conciliatory measures so invariably displayed towards them, that they beg to record their united acknowledgments by this humble but sincere address; and be assured, sir, it is deemed no trifling matter to be engaged in so delightful a manifesto.

The contentment prevailing and so apparent in the minds of those in your employ exhibits to every true observer the non-existence of tyranny within the walls of your establishment, hence flow those social habits and congenial intercourse so essential to the welfare of society at large; also, the comforts, happiness, and prosperity of both employers and employed.

If we were rich in this world's goods a stronger proof of our attachment would be displayed on this occasion than at present we are able to perform. "Gratitude serves our friends, and also procures new ones;" therefore permit us to present to you, sir, this record of our feeble but lively sense of the gratitude we feel towards you as our master, and at the same time to present you with the accompanying testimonial,\* as of trifling but honest expression of our sincere respect.

Accept then, sir, from the hands of your grateful workpeople this portion of their esteem. Long may you and yours live to look upon and enjoy it. May your children be taught to regard this, our united gift, as a tribute to their father's merits; and when that period shall at length arrive which will summon all of us, high and low, rich and poor, before the last tribunal, may the good deeds performed by you on earth be rewarded by the society of the first and perfect in heaven.

\* A silver teapot and cream ewer, bearing the following inscription:—

Presented to  
Samuel Barrett, Esq.,  
by the workpeople of his employ,  
January 1st, 1846,  
As a token of their gratitude and esteem.

There is a small cotton mill built on the canal-side; the entrance to it is from Wharf-street, Lancashire-hill. It was built by Mr George Booth about the year 1819. Mr Booth was working this mill with apparent success in the year 1823, and for about ten years afterwards. He was also a coal merchant on a large scale, the entrance to his coal depot being on the north-side of the aforesaid Wharf-street, and the back door of his dwelling led to the wharf. After the death of Mr George Booth this coal business was carried on by his two sons, John and George Edward. The latter died some years ago. Mr John Booth lived to be an honourable old man, and died much respected a few years ago. Of this once popular family I only know of two survivors—a son, Mr George Booth, and a daughter Mrs John Rostron, of Wellington-road North.

Mr Ralph Pendlebury was born in the year 1791. In the year 1810 Mr Pendlebury was working in the Park cotton mill as book-keeper and store-keeper. Mr James Wilkinson was an overlooker, and Mr Elliot Turner was the cut looker, at the same mill and at the same time. These three men became conspicuous characters in Stockport. In the year 1823 Mr Pendlebury was keeping a boot and shoe shop near the Meal House-brow. In the year 1830 he had commenced cotton spinning in the mill near the George Inn, in conjunction with his old shopmate, under the firm of Pendlebury and Wilkinson. A few years later we find Mr Pendlebury working the mill in Wharf-street built by Mr Booth. Mr Pendlebury must have succeeded amazingly in his business transactions, for he had not been working the mill many years when he erected the large cotton mill in Chester-gate, known as the Kingston Mill. Whether it was Mr Pendlebury's intention to work this mill when completed I know not; if it was he changed his mind, and concluded to let well alone, for when he had got the place ready for machinery he sold it to a Manchester firm. In the year 1838 Mr Pendlebury was made Mayor of Stockport, he being the fourth Mayor of the corporate borough of Stockport.

During Mr Pendlebury's mayoralty England was passing through a severe crisis. The Owenites were building their halls of science, and spreading their socialistic doctrines throughout the land. Another sect were the followers of a person named Fergus O'Connor. This O'Connor was stumping all England, advising working men to send their hard earned spare cash to him, and he would purchase land wherever available. He would then

share it out amongst them. They then could go and dwell on their own estate in communistic style. They would all be freeholders, and each be entitled to give a Parliamentary vote. By this plan in a short time they would be able to out vote the "bloated aristocrats," and make their own laws. These were the doctrines preached by Mr O'Connor, and I am sorry to say that he found many dupes in Stockport. Some that I knew who went to their elysian allotments got nearly starved to death, and were glad to get to old Stockport again.

There was another sect who were very popular amongst the uneducated class of the operatives at this time. They called themselves Chartists; they were more exacting in their desires than any of the preceding sects. They demanded that there should be triennial Parliaments, that members should be paid for their services, all property qualifications should be abolished, all voting should be by ballot, and that there should be universal suffrage. These demands were called the five points of the charter. The Chartists were swarming in every town in England. What they could not gain by agitation they were determined to get by force. For this purpose they were holding secret meetings by night. They were each arming themselves with some kind of weapon, such as pikes, swords, bill hooks, &c., and were told to be in readiness to turn out at a given signal and overpower both the civil and military authorities. Mr Pendlebury was aware that we had many of these lawless characters residing in Stockport, and he ordered that a strict watch should be kept on all their movements. There was a smith, who had his smithy in an obscure yard in the precincts of Middle Hillgate, and it became known to Mr Pendlebury that this smith was fully occupied in making pike heads and other warlike instruments. Detectives were engaged to watch his movements, and to ascertain the destination of these weapons. It ultimately became known to the Mayor and his officials where these arms were concealed, also the residences of the ringleaders of this Chartist movement.

It was now when Mr Pendlebury proved himself to be the right man in the right place. He summoned a troop of dragoons to Stockport, and caused a number of special constables to be sworn in, and to hold themselves in readiness for any emergency. Now when his plans were all matured he ordered a raid to be made on these suspected places. This took place in the dead of night, and was executed with the utmost secrecy. Few excepting the officials knew what was taking place.

James Mitchell and a number of other conspirators were arrested in their beds, and a large quantity of arms were found in their dwellings. On the following morning the conspirators were hurried out of the town in a coach, guarded by a number of soldiers. I was opposite the Millgate Hall when they were being taken by way of Newbridge-lane to more secure quarters. A large concourse of people lined the street, all eager to see these prisoners. They seemed to be in good spirits, and kept waving their adieus to their friends through the coach windows. When nearly opposite Millgate Hall a rush was made towards the coach by a number of men, their intention being as I thought to shake hands with Mitchell, who had his hand out of the coach window. In an instant the swords of the dragoons were pointed at the men's breasts. Had these men persisted in going nearer to the coach there would have been bloodshed. By the prompt action of Mr Pendlebury and his adviser, Mr Henry Coppock, Stockport got cleared of these violent agitators. For the part the former took in putting down this agitation the Queen was pleased to summon him to her presence, when she conferred the honour of knighthood upon him.

Sir Ralph Pendlebury was diligent in business, frugal in all things, and his wants were very few considering the position he held in society.

This great benefactor to Stockport died on November 9th, 1861, aged 71 years, and was interred in Hanover Chapel burial ground. A granite tombstone near the front entrance of the chapel yard, on which are carved Sir Ralph's three principal attributes, "Labour, Thrift, and Benevolence," marks the last resting-place of this truly large-hearted gentleman. Sir Ralph Pendlebury's munificent gift of one hundred thousand pounds for charitable purposes to the town of Stockport has been the means of gladdening the hearts of scores of poor widows, and feeding and clothing hundreds of poor orphan children. A magnificent edifice erected on Dodge-hill was first called the Pendlebury Orphanage, now the Pendlebury Memorial Hall, to perpetuate this good man's name. The mill worked with so much success by Sir Ralph has had many tenants since his time. It is now worked by the Messrs Rivett. That they may prosper as did some of their predecessors is the sincere wish of the writer.

Stockport

JOHN GREENHALGH.

CHESHIRE HIGH SHERIFFS.

L

Seeing a request in Notes and Queries for a list of

the high sheriffs of Cheshire, I send for insertion the following list made some time ago, and compiled from various sources, which I have brought down to the present date:—

Ranulphus, vicecomes, witness to a deed of the second Randle, Earl of Chester, in the reign of King Stephen. Gilbertus Pipardus, 30 Henry II.

Bertramus de Verdon, 31 and 33 Henry II.

Lidulfus, or Liulfus, vicecomes, about the reign of Richard I, or King John. This Lithulfe was lord of Goostrey, Twamlow, Croxton, and Crannach.

## HENRY III.

Sir William Thebaud.

Richard Perpoint tempore Philippi Orreby.

Ricardus filius Lidulfi.

Richard de Sonbach.

1230. Ricardus de Sonbach.

1233. Ricardus de Wibenbury.

1248. Ricardus Berner' vel Bernerd.

1252. David de Malpas.

Joceramus de Halesby.

1262. Robert Buckley.

1266. Robert de Huxley.

1267. Jordanus de Penlesdon.

Randle of Sidington.

1268. Sir Thomas Dutton of Dutton.

1270. Richard Wilbraham.

1271. Richard Wilbraham.

1272. Hugh de Hatton.

## EDWARD I.

1273. Robert de Huxley.

1274. Hugh de Hatton.

James Pool.

1277. Patrick de Haselwell.

1278. Richard de Massy.

1279. William de Hawarden.

1281. William de Spurstowe.

1284. Robert Grosvenour of Hulme in Allostock.

1285. Robert Grosvenour.

1286. Robert Grosvenour.

1287. Robert Grosvenour.

1288. Robert Grosvenour.

1289. Robert Grosvenour.

1292. William de Praers.

1293. Richard de Bradwell.

1295. Philip de Egerton.

1296. Philip de Egerton.

1297. William de Praers.

1298. William de Praers.

1299. William de Praers.

1307. William de Praers.

1303. Robert de Bressy.

1307. Robert de Bressy.

1307. Ricardus de Fowleshurst.

1308. Ricardus de Fowleshurst.

## EDWARD II.

1308. Ricardus de Fowleshurst.

1309. Robert Buckley.

1310. Richard de Weteleye, vel Whitley.

1311. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1312. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1313. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1314. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1315. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1316. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1319. William de Mobberley.

1320. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1321. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1324. Richard de Fowleshurst.

1326. Richard de Fowleshurst.

## EDWARD III.

1328. John de Wrenbury.

1329. John de Wrenbury.

1330. Robert de Praers.

1331. William Praers.

1332. William Praers.

1333. David de Egerton.

1335. Adam Parker.

1337. John de Wrenbury.

1338. John de Wrenbury.

1340. Robert de Buckley, jun.

1341. Robert de Buckley, jun.

1342. Randle de Adlington.

1343. Randle de Adlington.

1344. Randle de Adlington.

1345. Randle de Adlington.

1346. Hugh del Hough.

1347. Nicolas de Ruggeley.

Sir James de Dudeleggh, Knt.

1348. Sir James Andely.

1349. William Praers of Baddiley.

1351. Thomas Danyers.

1358. Thomas de Dutton.

1358. Thomas de Dutton.

1360. Thomas Young.

1361. Richard de Whitley.

1367. John de Scolehall.

1369. Sir Nicholas de Manley.

1370. Sir Lawrence de Dutton of Dutton, Knt.

## RICHARD II.

1377. Thomas de Apelton.

1378. Hugh Venables of Kinderton.

1383. Nicolas de Vernon.

1385. Hugh, Earl of Stafford.

1386. Sir Richard Venables.

1387. Sir Nicolas Vernon.

1387. Sir John Massey of Tatton, Knt.

1389. Sir Robert le Grosvenour of Houlme.

1390. Sir John Massey of Tatton, Knt.

1393. Sir Robert Legh of Adlington.

394. Sir Robert Grosvenour of Houlme.  
395. Sir Robert Grosvenour of Houlme.  
396. John de Olton.  
397. Henry Ravenscroft.  
398. Sir Robert Leigh of Adlington.  
399. John de Mascy.

HENRY IV.

400. John Massy of Podington.  
401. Henry de Ravenscroft.  
404. John Mainwaring of Over-Pever.  
405. John Mainwaring of Over-Pever.  
406. John Mainwaring of Over-Pever.  
409. Sir William de Brereton.  
410. Sir William de Brereton.  
411. Sir William de Brereton.  
412. Sir Lawrence de Merebury, Knt.

HENRY V.

415. John Legh del Booth's, nigh Knotsford.  
416. John Legh.  
417. John Legh.  
418. John Legh.  
419. John Legh.  
420. John Legh.  
421. John Legh.  
422. Hugh Dutton of Hatton, near Chester.  
423. John Legh.

HENRY VI.

1424. Hugh de Dutton of Hatton.  
1426. Richard de Warburton, vice Dutton.  
1428. Sir Randle Brereton.  
1432. Sir Hugh Dutton.  
1433. Sir Randle Brereton.  
1434. Sir Randle Brereton.  
1437. John Troutback esquire.  
1437. John Troutback esquire.  
1437. Sir Robert Booth of Dunham Massey, during pleasure.  
1443. Sir Robert Booth of Dunham and his son William appointed Sheriffs for both their lives, and to the survivor. This Sir Robert married Douce, the co-heir of Venables of Bollin, and this patent to the sheriffship is the first that was granted for life, by virtue of which Sir William Booth, his son and successor, was sheriff to 2 Edward IV., when that King created William Stanley of Hooton sheriff for life.

EDWARD IV.

1263. William Stanley of Hooton, sen.

HENRY VII.

1488. Sir William Stanley of Hooton, on the resignation of his father.  
1495. John Warburton of Arley. Sheriff for life. Sir John was sheriff to 1524.

HENRY VIII.

1524. Thomas Warburton.  
1524. Sir George Holford of Holford.  
1525. Sir William Stanley of Hooton.  
1526. William Venables of Kinderton.  
1527. William de la Pole.  
1528. Thomas Fowleshurst, esq., of Crewe.  
1529. John Done of Utkinton, esquire.  
1531. Edward Fitton of Gawesworth, esquire.  
1532. George Paulet esquire, during pleasure.  
1537. Sir Henry Delves of Doddington.  
1538. Sir Thomas Nedeham, knt.  
1539. Sir Alexander Ratcliffe, knt.  
1540. Edmund Trafford, esquire.  
1541. John Holford, esquire.  
1543. Sir Peers Dutton of Dutton and Hatton.  
1544. Sir Edward Fitton of Gawesworth.  
1545. Sir Henry Delves of Doddington.

EDWARD VI.

1547. Sir Hugh Cholmeley of Cholmeley.  
1548. Sir William Brereton of Brereton.  
1549. Thomas Aston of Aston, esquire.  
1550. Sir John Savage of Rocksavage.  
1551. Sir Lawrence Smith of Hatherton.  
1552. Sir William Brereton of Brereton.

MARY.

1553. Sir Peter Legh of Lyme.  
1554. Sir Hugh Cholmeley of Cholmeley.  
1555. Richard Wilbraham of Woodhey, esquire.  
1556. Sir Thomas Venables of Kinderton.  
1557. Sir Philip Egerton of Egerton.  
1559. Sir Edward Fitton of Gawesworth.  
1559. Sir Edward Fitton of Gawesworth.

ELIZABETH.

1560. Sir John Savage of Rocksavage.  
1561. Sir Raufe Egerton of Wrine Hill.  
1562. Sir Richard Warburton of Arley.  
1563. Richard Brook of Norton, esquire.  
1564. William Massy, esquire.  
1565. Sir John Savage of Rocksavage.  
1566. Sir Hugh Cholmeley of Cholmeley.  
1567. Lawrence Smith of Hatherton, esquire.  
1568. Raufe Done of Flaxyards, esquire.  
1569. George Calveley of Lea, esquire.  
1570. Sir John Savage of Rocksavage.  
1571. William Booth of Dunham Massey, esquire.  
1572. Thomas Stanley of Alderley, esquire.  
1573. Sir John Savage of Rocksavage.  
1574. Sir John Savage.  
1574. Sir Hugh Cholmeley of Cholmeley.  
1575. Henry Manwaring of Carincham.  
1576. Sir Rowland Stanley of Hooton.  
1577. John Warren of Pointon, esquire.  
1578. Thomas Brook of Norton, esquire.

1579. Sir John Savage of Rocksavage.  
 1580. Sir Raufe Egerton of Wrine Hill.  
 1581. Sir George Calveley of Lea.  
 1582. Sir William Brereton of Brereton.  
 1583. Peter Warburton of Arley, esquire.  
 1584. William Leversage of Wheelok, esquire.  
 1585. Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey, esquire.  
 1586. Hugh Calveley of Lea, esquire.  
 1587. Randle Davenport of Henbury, esquire.  
 1588. Thomas Legh of Adlington, esquire.  
 1589. Sir Hugh Cholmeley of Cholmeley.  
 1590. William Brereton of Honford, esquire.  
 1591. Sir John Savage of Rocksavage,  
 1592. Thomas Brook of Nerton, esquire.  
 1593. Thomas Venables of Kinderton, esquire.  
 1594. Peter Warburton of Arley, esquire.  
 1595. Peter Legh of Lime, esquire.  
 1596. John Done of Utkinton, esquire.  
 1597. Sir George Booth of Dunham-Massey.  
 1598. Sir Edward Warren of Pointon.  
 1599. Sir Thomas Holcroft of Vale Royal.  
 1600. Sir Thomas Smith of Hatherton.  
 1601. Sir Thomas Aston of Aston.  
 1602. Richard Grosvenour of Eaton-boate, esquire.

## JAMES I.

1603. Sir George Leycester of Toft.  
 1604. Sir William Davenport of Broomhall.  
 1605. Sir Randle Manwaring of Over-Pever.  
 1606. Sir Thomas Vernon of Haslington.  
 1607. Sir John Savage of Rocksavage.  
 1608. Sir Henry Bunbury of Stanney.  
 1609. William Brereton of Ashley, esquire.  
 1610. Geoffrey Shakerley of Houlme, esquire.  
 1611. Thomas Dutton of Dutton, esquire.  
 1612. Sir William Brereton of Brereton.  
 1613. Sir Urian Legh of Adlington.  
 1614. Sir George Calveley of Legh nigh Eaton-boate.  
 1615. Sir Richard Lea of Lea and Darnhall.  
 1616. Sir Richard Wilbraham of Woodhey, bart.  
 1617. John Davenport of Davenport.  
 1618. Raufe Calveley of Laughton, esquire.  
 1619. Sir Randle Manwaring of Over-Pever.  
 1620. Sir Robert Cholmeley of Cholmeley, bart.  
 1621. Thomas Merbury of the Mere nigh Comberbach,  
 esquire.  
 1622. Sir George Booth of Dunham-Massey, bart.  
 1623. Sir Thomas Smith of Hatherton.  
 1624. Sir Richard Grosvenour of Eaton-boate, bart.

## CHARLES II.

1625. Sir Thomas Brereton of Ousaker.  
 1626. Sir John Done of Utkinton.  
 1627. John Calveley of Saughton, esquire.  
 1628. Sir Edward Stanley of Bickerstaffe, bart.  
 1629. Thomas Legh of Adlington, esquire.  
 1630. Peter Dutton of Hatton, esquire.

1631. Thomas Stanley of Nether-Alderley, esquire.  
 1632. Richard Brereton of Ashley, esquirebart.  
 1633. Sir Edward Fitton of Gawesworth.  
 1634. Peter Venables, esquire, baron of Kinderton.  
 1635. Sir Thomas Aston of Aston, bart.  
 1636. William Legh of Booths, esquire.  
 1637. Sir Thomas Delves of Dodington, bart.  
 1638. Thomas Cholmeley of Vale Royal, esquire.  
 1639. Philip Manwaring of Over-Pever, esquire.  
 1640. Sir Thomas Powel of Birket-Abbey, bart.  
 1641. Jehn Bellot of Morton, esquire.  
 1642. Hugh Calveley of Lea, knighted hoc amo.  
 1643. Thomas Legh of Adlington, esquire.  
 1644. Richard Grosvenour, son of Sir Richard  
 Grosvenour of Eaton-boate, bart.  
 Henry Brooks of Norton, by the two Houses of  
 Parliament  
 1645. Robert Tatton of Witthenahaw, esquire.  
 Henry Brooks of Norton, by the two Houses of  
 Parliament.  
 1646. Henry Brooks of Norton, esquire, by the two  
 Houses, siné regé.  
 1647. Henry Brooks of Norton, esquire, by the two  
 Houses, siné regé.  
 1648. Roger Wilbraham of Darford, esquire, by the  
 Parliament siné regé.  
 1649. Robert Duckenfield of Duckenfield, esquire, by  
 the Committees of State, calling themselves  
 Custodes Libertatis Angliæ after they had  
 beheaded the king.

## COMMONWEALTH.

1650. Sir Henry Delves of Dodington, bart., by the  
 Committees of State.  
 1651. Edmund Jodrill of Yerdaley, esquire, by the  
 Committees of State.  
 1652. John Crew of Crew, esquire, by the Committee  
 of State.  
 1653. Peter Dutton of Hatton, esquire, by the Com-  
 mittees of State.  
 1654. George Warburton of Arley, esquire, by Oliver  
 Protector.  
 1655. Philip Egerton of Olton, esquire, by the same  
 Oliver.  
 1656. Idem Philip continued by Oliver.  
 1657. Thomas Manwaring of Over-Pever, esquire, by  
 Oliver.  
 1658. John Legh of Booths, esquire, by Oliver.  
 1659. Idem John continued by Oliver.  
 1660. Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale-Royal, esquire,  
 by the King now restored.  
 1661. Idem Thomas continued by the King.  
 1662. Thomas Legh of Adlington, esquire.  
 1663. Sir John Bellot of Morton, made baronet this  
 year.  
 1664. Sir Thomas Wilbraham of Woodhey, bart.  
 1665. Sir Thomas Delves of Dodington, bart.  
 1666. Sir John Arderne of Harden, kt.

1667. Sir Richard Brook of Norton, bart.  
 1668. Roger Wilbraham of Darford, esquire.  
 1669. Sir Peter Brook of Mere.  
 1670. Roger Wilbraham of Nantwich, esquire.  
 1671. Edmund Jodrell of Yerdeley, esquire.  
 1672. William Lawton of Lawton, esquire.  
 1673. Thomas Touchet of Nether Whitley, esquire.  
 1674. Thomas Bunbury of Stanney, esquire.  
 1674. Sir Robert Duckenfield, bart.  
 1675. Sir Philip Egerton of Oulton, bart.  
 1676. Richard Walthall of Wistaston, esquire.  
 1677. John Davies of Manley, esquire.  
 1678. Sir Peter Stanley of Alderley, bart.  
 1679. Sir James Bradshaw of Bromborough, kt.  
 1680. Edward Legh of Bagulegh, esquire.  
 1681. Edward Downes of Shrigley, esquire.  
 1682. Sir Peter Pinder of Idenshaw, bart.  
 1683. Peter Wilbraham of Dorfold, esquire.  
 1684. James Davenport of Woodford, esquire.

JAMES II.

1685. Henry Davies of Dodleston, esq.

1686. The same Henry Davies.  
 1687. Robert Cholmondeley of Holford, esq.  
 1688. Thomas Legh of Adlington, esq.

WILLIAM AND MARY.

1689. Sir Thomas Grosvenor of Eaton, bart.  
 1690. John Bruen of Stapleford, esq.  
 1691. Sir Willoughby Aston of Aston, bart.  
 1692. Peter Legh of Booths, esq.  
 1693. Sir William Glagg of Gayton, kt.

HISTORICAL.

## Queries.

CHESHIRE CLOCKMAKERS.—HEYWOOD.—Can any information be obtained from your correspondents respecting a clockmaker of Northwich named Heywood? We have an old eight-day clock, a very good one, bearing over its face the words, "Jno. Heywood, Northwich." A.E.S.

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 SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 1886.

## Notes.

SAMUEL ROBINSON.—PART II.  
 (ante, 121.)

However great the need to instil in the minds of the young a knowledge of grammar and geography, of writing and arithmetic, no one was less likely than Mr Robinson to suppose that such teaching alone could be considered complete:—

Education does not consist merely of instruction, in the learning of schools, or in the communication of any positive literary or scientific knowledge, but in everything which has a tendency to form the character, to enlighten the mind, to soften the manners, to refine the taste, to enlarge the views, and to improve and civilise the whole man. Surely, my friends, this is education. It is that which makes us wiser, happier, and better men; more useful citizens, more rational and pious Christians. It is that which gives a man the possession of himself, which cultivates all his powers, and develops in its due proportion every faculty of his nature. It is that which teaches him to bring his appetites and passions under the control of reason; to make the distant and the future predominate over the present; to subject the lower parts of his nature to the higher; in short, to sink the animal within him, and to elevate the intellectual and moral man. This is what I mean by education; this alone is worthy of the name of education.

'At a time when the population of the country,

and more especially of the cotton districts, was rapidly increasing, when more abundant means were enjoyed by persons hitherto unaccustomed to them, and who at the same time lacked the stimulus to higher and better things which education confers, Mr Robinson was constrained to utter the following note of warning:—

My friends, this is a subject which every year is assuming a more important and, I may add, a more awful character. We see dense masses of population thickening around us on every side, half civilised, half educated; crime, if not increasing, still of fearfully large amount; our prisons filled, our colonies polluted, our dockyards ringing with the chains of convict labourers—every useless means taken to *punish* crime; but, except here and there, in institutions like the present, no effectual means taken to *prevent* it. Ah, my friends, if in our warfare against evil of every kind, whether moral, social, or political; whether that within our own bosoms, or that which desolates the face of nations, we could only attend more to that principle of *prevention*, and place less reliance on our power of eradication, what trouble, what sorrow and calamity might we not save both to ourselves and our country! But such, alas, is not the habit of our nation. Perhaps I might extend my observation further and say such is not the habit of our nature. Instead of probing deep into the *causes* of the mischief, we are apt to waste our efforts in battling against the mere *symptoms* and *indications* of it. We lop the branches instead of striking at the root. We are apt

to trust too much to legislation, and too little to that which alone can render legislation effectual. Laws can never banish crime; government cannot do it, magistrates cannot do it, police cannot do it, measures of repression cannot do it, because they seek *only* to repress, and not to eradicate and destroy. To do this, my friends, education in its widest sense; education such as I have described it; improvement in the happiness, the character, and the social condition of our people, is our only hope. If we would have the streams pure, we must purify the source from which they flow. If we would have our people virtuous, we must prevent them from ever becoming vicious. If we would save a man from a life spent in infamy and terminated in ruin, we must take heed that he never enters upon the fatal course. It may otherwise be too late—it *will* otherwise be too late. Let those speak, for they alone can tell, who are intimately acquainted with the interior of our gaols. How rare are the instances, how very few—they may be counted—in which a man who has once become the accustomed tenant of a prison ever becomes the honest tenant of any other dwelling. How difficult it is to turn a man to good when he has grown old and stiff in evil! How hard to call those back again to the path of virtue who left it too early and have wandered from it too long! Doubtless even then we should endeavour to call them back, but the very difficulty of the attempt should force upon us the urgent necessity of saving our people and all around us from falling into those dangers, those follies, and those crimes, from which when once they are involved it is difficult to rescue them.

From the wise and earnest words which have been reproduced in some of the earlier extracts it will not have escaped notice that, whilst Mr Robinson enforced the duty of the more opulent and cultured classes, to place the benefits of education within the reach of their neighbours who were less happily circumstanced, he did not hesitate to tell the latter that all the efforts would prove nugatory unless they were supplemented by their own hearty co-operation. There is no misunderstanding the following extract from an address to the parents of the children taught in the Dukinfield Sunday School, and though nearly fifty years have since elapsed, and the moral status of the families from which the scholars are drawn has greatly advanced, the spirit of the advice is still worthy of general acceptance:—

You have a still more solemn duty to perform than any I have mentioned: it is to afford to your children the benefit of your own good example. We may give them the precept, it is for you to exemplify it in practice. We may sow the seeds of instruction. It is for you to prove, in your own lives and characters, the

happy fruits of a good education. In vain shall we try to impress upon their minds ideas of neatness and cleanliness, order and regularity, if your own home present continually to their eyes scenes of mismanagement, dirtiness, and untidiness. In vain shall we attempt to train them to industry, frugality, and economy, if they see your conduct marked by idleness, wastefulness, and improvidence. In vain shall we exhort them to steadiness, temperance, and sobriety, if in you they witness perpetual instances of drunkenness and immorality. In vain shall we strive to check profane words, to root out bad habits, to repress improper feelings, and to imbue them with benevolence, gentleness, kindness, and affection, if your firesides are the theatres of strife and discord, if your lips are sullied by unseemly language, if in you they behold the frequent manifestation of evil principles and malignant passions. No, it is no trifling responsibility you take upon yourselves when you become parents. It is a serious thing in any case to think what may be the effects of our actions on the well-being of others, it is fearful in the case of a parent and his child. If every parent would lay this to his heart—if he would seriously reflect what may be the effect of his own example for good or for evil—if he would determine, as far as in him lies, to conduct himself and govern his family on Christian principles, and to make his household the abode of all the social and domestic virtues—how soon and how totally would this neighbourhood change its whole character and appearance. Mothers, let me solemnly remind you that this good work belongs most especially to you.

The speeches and writings of Samuel Robinson, addressed to the Sunday school, the village community, and the general public, will be searched in vain to discover much of dogmatic, or anything of a sectarian character. He was in the best sense a Broad Churchman. One might be of Paul, another of Apollos, a third of Cephas, but the wise and good man, whose words we love to recall, was pre-eminently of Christ. He was, above all things, a religious man. On an earlier occasion, addressing the persons interested in the Sunday school, he said:—

I trust that religious instruction will maintain the foremost place, and engage the most serious attention of every teacher. But let not religion be taught to the young as a system of creeds and articles, or a collection of mysteries, which have baffled the subtlest and acutest minds, and are therefore, however true altogether beyond a childish understanding, but that religion which is common to all Christians—the religion of love, the religion of holy and tender affections evinced in virtuous and gentle actions. I will not fear that the child which is taught to reverence and love God, to love and obey its parents, to be affectionate to its brothers and sisters, to be kind to its friends and

playmates, to be obedient and grateful to its instructors, always to speak the truth and abhor all falsehood and deceit, to be honest and industrious, and to avoid bad company, to be fond of knowledge and anxious to acquire it, will turn out, or be called in after life, an irreligious man; and these things must not be taught by blind precept only, but by animating examples.

The benefits conferred from the discipline which cannot be escaped by the student in pursuit of knowledge, and the numerous and far-reaching blessings which its attainment confers, were eloquently set forth in a speech delivered in the year 840. The following extract will be read with interest :—

I do not, sir, consider it any defect in the constitution of the Lyceums, that they do not, I believe, pretend to give much deep scientific knowledge, or to make those who frequent them into scholars and philosophers. This is a matter of little moment. The great advantage of knowledge, especially to the classes upon which they are intended to operate, does not consist so much in the possession as in the pursuit of it. It is not in being wise above other men, it is not in having our minds filled with the recollections of former ages, or the discoveries of modern sciences, or with the thoughts of the great and good in all nations and ages of the world; it is not in these that consists the chief benefit of knowledge. These, indeed, are good, and for those who have leisure and opportunity for acquiring them, they do afford to the mind a most rich fund of pure and inexhaustible enjoyment. But there are greater things than these. It is in the effect upon the mind and the character; it is in the moral and intellectual habits that are formed, habits of attention, of perseverance, of diligence, of self-control; it is the way the mind is filled with images of everything that is noble, beautiful, and good; it is in the refuge it affords against dangerous temptations, hurtful pleasures, and vicious company; it is in the protection it gives against anything that is evil, and the strengthening of everything that is good within us; it is in these that we find the chief benefits of knowledge, and these are to be gained more in the pursuit than in the possession of it. And these will last, we must remember, when the knowledge itself has passed away. Knowledge itself, however various and profound, is but a transitory possession, but the effect of it upon the mind will be enduring as the mind itself, for, though we are told in Scripture that "whether there be prophecies they shall fail, whether there be tongues they shall cease, whether there be knowledge it shall vanish away," yet the effects of it will not be lost; they will not vanish away, showing us how much there is to be known, and how little we ourselves know,

it has made us more humble; if by teaching us that many who think differently from ourselves on most important questions are yet both wise and good, it has made us more liberal; if by relating to us the history of cruelty and oppression, the sufferings of the innocent, the persecution of the good, and the final triumph of persevering virtue, it has attached us more firmly to justice, to liberty, to truth; if, by awakening in our minds an inextinguishable desire to penetrate into the hidden wonders of creation, it has raised our thoughts to that higher state of being where alone that desire can ever be fully gratified; if it has done all this it will not have been in vain, and the effect of it at least will never pass away. This will remain for ever, and the pleasures which we have here begun to taste will be renewed in a higher and happier state of being. There, no branch of knowledge, no theme of inquiry, no object of discovery, will be closed against us; the whole universe will be thrown open before us; "we shall know even as we are known."

When perusing the speculations of Mr Robinson respecting the continuation of our life in another sphere after its termination here, we are led to apply them to his own self and to wonder what may be the employment of that acute mind and generous heart since the removal of the trammels of the flesh, enfeebled in his case with the weight of multiplied years, and burdened with a delicate and weakly frame. The words of Lord Houghton are naturally recalled :—

"Rest in peace!" the legend runs,  
Rest is sweet to Adam's sons,  
But can he whose busy brain  
Worked within this hollow skull  
Now his zeal for Truth restrain?  
Now his subtle fancy dull?  
When he wanders spirit-free,  
Young in his Immortality?—  
While on earth he only bore  
Life as it was linked with lore,  
And the infinite increase  
Of knowledge was his only peace;  
Till that knowledge be possess'd  
How can such a mind have rest?

Samuel Robinson was fully justified in speaking of the advantages derived from the pursuit of knowledge. He was not dealing with an unfamiliar subject. His acquaintance with modern European languages was neither limited in area nor shallow in depth. He read the Greek and Latin authors in the original. Oriental languages and literature were a favourite study, especially the writings of the Persian poets. Hebrew and Arabic also engaged his attention. The writer on one occasion took for



his examination an inscription in ancient Samaritan character, and another of more modern Arabic, which he had brought from Shechem. Mr Robinson at once entered upon an explanation of the differences between the Samaritan and the square-headed Hebrew, and indicated the points of resemblance between the Turkish and Arabic languages, adding, with his never-forgotten modesty, that some of these subjects were outside his usual studies.

There were in the character of Mr Robinson many of the equalities which go to the making of the poet. He possessed ideality, a lively imagination united with a love of the beautiful, and was still more remarkably endowed with the faculty of sympathy. He was nice and happy in the choice of language, and appreciative of excellence of composition either in the sentiment or diction. A remarkable modesty was one of the leading characteristics of Mr Robinson. His volumes of translations from the Persian and the German exhibit no further clue to their authorship than may be gathered from the modest signature, "S.R." Mr John Cheetham, with whom the writer held a conversation less than a week ago, and already his lengthened and honoured course has terminated, related to the writer that when he entertained the celebrated oriental scholar Arminius Vambéry, at dinner, this great traveller remarked that he was anxious to discover a certain Persian scholar of high attainments, and enquired if he could help him in his search for this same Mr Samuel Robinson. Mr Cheetham was able to direct him to the object of his quest in the person of another of his guests seated at the same table. In 1860, a small collection of translations from Latin and Italian authors appeared, but this was not even published. Might it not be that this characteristic modesty of Mr Robinson caused him to prefer to translate and versify, rather than express his own sentiments in metre? And was there not something congenial to his cultured and conscientious mind to allow no license, but compel himself to reproduce the sentiments in an alien tongue, to dress them in metre, and to endeavour, so far as practicable, to render them in the style and rhythm of the original. Mr Robinson explained to the writer something of the difficulties he had encountered in adopting the peculiar metre of Dante in his translation of the third canto of the *Inferno*. It may be remembered that the verses consist of three lines each; the first and third, rhyme, and also rhyme with the middle line in the preceding verse. The poet having passed

through the gate of the infernal regions, and having descended the steep accompanied by his guide, described what first he encountered:—

There sighs and tears, and wailings long and deep,  
Resounded ever through the starless sky,  
That I, even from the first, began to weep.

Language diverse and horrible, the cry  
Of piercing anguish, curses mixt with blows,  
Accents of anger, voices hoarse and high.

Made a tumultuous din, which circling goes  
Through that eternal gloom its ceaseless round,  
As sand that round and round the whirlwind throws.

And I, who had my head with error bound,  
Cried, "Master say what means this wild acclaim?  
And who are these so deep in sorrow drowned?"

And he to me: "This heritage of shame  
Receive those worthless souls, whose days have flown  
Without or ought to praise, or ought to blame.

Amidst that caltiff portion are they thrown,  
Of angels, who nor faithful did remain,  
Nor rebels were, to God, but stood alone.

Heaven cast them forth its beauty not to stain,  
Nor would deep hell receive them when they fell;  
From such no glory could the damned obtain."

And I: "Master, I understand not well,  
Why with such loud laments they mourn their fate;"  
And he: "This also briefly will I tell.

No hopes of death these wretched souls await;  
And their dark life is so completely base,  
They envious are of any other fate.

Fame, in the world, of them, has left no trace;  
Mercy and Justice, scorn the abject crew;  
Speak not of them, but look, and leave the place."

Although our author was averse to expressing his own ideas in verse, he does not appear to have been unwilling to select for translation poems, the sentiments of which he could adopt as his own. Culture, wisdom, and goodness combined, did not offer a front which was always impervious to slights and discourtesies, especially from those who lacked the powers to understand or to appreciate one so far above them in all that was worthy of respect. Some such circumstance may have occasioned the eloquent translation from the rhymes of Ariosto, which concludes in the following manner:—

Who will, remember injuries and ire,  
Forget discourteous all the vast delight  
Which seemed a new existence to inspire.

But I remember not reproach nor slight,  
Or ought that e'er provoked or tears or sighs,  
And every gentle act keep full in sight.

Believe who will, that time will loose the ties  
Which love has knit, and drops of sorrow flow,  
Oft as these light desires to memory rise.

But I, till age has blanched my locks with snow,  
Would love, and others teach to love beside;  
And if the flame shall sink, or faintly glow,  
Let Fate the feeble thread of life divide.

The translation by Mr Robinson, of the third ode  
of Anacreon, will not suffer by comparison with  
the many which have been made, and for compact-  
ness it has probably few rivals—

CUPID BENIGHTED.

'Twas midnight; in the darkened air,  
Near to Bootes rolled the Bear;  
And mortals, sunk in sweet repose,  
Awhile forgot their toils and woes;  
When Love before my dwelling stood  
And tapped the door in frolic mood.

"Who knocks?" I cried, "ere dawn of day,  
Scattering my pleasant dreams away?"  
"Open," he said in accents wild,  
"You've naught to fear, I'm but a child;  
The moon is gone, the night is drear,  
And wet and cold I wander here."

Moved by his pitiable fate,  
I trimmed a lamp, unbarred the gate,  
And saw, in sooth, a child—no more—  
Who wings and bow and quiver bore;  
I placed him near the cheerful blaze,  
His drooping spirits tried to raise,  
His little hands in mine caressed,  
And from his hair the raindrops pressed;  
No sooner had the genial heat  
Expelled the cold, than from his seat  
He skipped, and cried "I fain would know  
Whether the rain has spoiled my bow."

And at the word, with stinging smart,  
He winged an arrow through my heart.  
"Adieu," exclaimed the laughing boy,  
"Mine host, adieu; I wish you joy;  
My bow unhurt, I see, remains,  
But you will feel it in your veins."

When Mr Robinson was engaged in translating  
the 31st ode of the first book of Horace, he was  
giving expression to his own sentiments equally  
with those of the Latin poet, more especially in the  
concluding four lines:—

Bending at Apollo's shrine,  
Whilst he pours the votive wine,  
What the poet's humble prayer?  
What the gifts he asks to share?

Not the plenteous crops of grain  
Waving on Sardinia's plain;

Not the beauteous herds that fill  
Hot Calabria's vale and hill;  
Not the gold and ivory store,  
Brought from India's distant shore;  
Nor the fields which Liris laves,  
Silent streams!—with silent waves.

They, when Fortune grants the boon,  
The Calenian vine may prune;  
And the merchant, rich in gain,  
From his golden goblets drain  
Wines bought with the precious ware,  
Which his Syrian vessels bear;  
Favourite of the gods! For he,  
Tempting the Atlantic sea  
Thrice and four times in the year,  
Home his bark can safely steer

Let my simpler banquet be  
Herbs and olives; give to me,  
Leto's son, to live content  
With the goods the gods have lent;  
Give me to enjoy combined  
Body sound and healthy mind;  
And should lengthened years remain,  
May my age exempt from stain,  
Honoured be, and never lose  
Memory of the gentle muse.

As an example of compactness and of the close  
adherence to the original, the last two verses of  
ode 9, book IV., may be given:—

Him who has much, not rightly wilt thou call  
HAPPY; that name more rightly may he claim,  
Who what the gods have given  
Knows wisely how to use.

He who hard poverty can bravely bear,  
Who dreads dishonour more than loss of life,  
He, who for fatherland  
Or friends, fears not to die.

The translation is rendered in fifty-three words.  
Lord Lytton, in his version of the same passage,  
employed seventy-one words, and Dr. Francis  
seventy-one. The original is as follows:—

Non possidentem multa vocaveris  
Recte beatum; rectius occupat  
Nomen beati, qui decorum  
Muneribus sapienter uti,  
Duramque callet pauperiem pati,  
Pejusque leto flagitium timet;  
Non ille pro caris amicis  
Aut patria timidus perire.

In the year 1867 the volume of specimens of  
Schiller's minor poems was published. Mr Robin-  
son describes them as

an attempt to combine a faithful adherence to the  
originals with the natural and easy flow of English

versification; in other words, an endeavour to make Schiller speak, in some sort as he might have spoken, if, preserving the thoughts, images, sentiment and tone of the German, he had used the English language as the medium of expressing them. This surely is the proper end of translation. The three following examples differing each from the other may give some idea of the work:—

## EVENING.

Sink, glorious god! The thirsty earth drinks up  
The quickening dew; the peasant homeward plods,  
The horses weary draw;  
Thy chariot downward bend!

See from the crystal surface of the waves  
Who smiling welcomes thee? Thine heart replies,  
Swifter the horses fly;  
'Tis Thetis welcomes thee.

Quick from his chariot springs into her arms  
The charioteer, and Cupid grasps the reins;  
The horses panting stand,  
And drink the cooling flood.

Over the dusky heavens glides softly forth  
The fragrant Night, whom follows gentle Love;  
Phœbus, the loving, rests:  
Thou too mayst rest and love.

## HOPE.

Man talks and dreams, that Time will unroll  
A happier day than the days which are gone;  
And his steps to that golden, that hope-beaming goal,  
Unfaltering, unflagging, he still presses on;  
The world keeps circling the self-same sphere,  
Yet man still hopes that the BETTER is near.

Hope welcomes the infant with radiant smiles,  
She plays round the frolicksome, light-hearted boy,  
The youth with her magic enchantment beguiles,  
Nor can age every pleasing illusion destroy;  
For when in the grave the weary one lies,  
He plants on the graves, "Hope lives in the skies."

Nor is this the fair dream, unsubstantial and vain,  
The fruit of a brain with wild fancies elate;  
The heart from within echoes loudly again,  
We are born for some better and happier state;  
And the inner voice which bids us believe,  
Will never the hoping spirit deceive.

## PROVERB OF CONFUCIUS.

Threelfold is the march of time,  
Lingering comes the future on,  
Swift as arrow flies the present,  
Still for ever stands the gone.

No impatience, no entreaty,  
Wings the Lingerer on his way;  
No despair, no cry for pity,  
Wins the Fugitive to stay;

No conjuring, no repentance,  
Moves the Still to change his sentence.

Wouldst thou calmly onward wend,  
Wise and blest life's journey end,  
The Lingerer for counsel take,  
But not thy instrument to make:  
Nor friendship on the Fugitive bestow,  
Nor make the Motionless thy foe.

If the literary productions of the pen of Mr Robinson had been confined to his translations from the German, the Italian, and the Latin, it could not be disputed that it had been held in the hand of a true poet. But it was in Asia and among the celebrated poets who flourished in Persia from the tenth to the fifteenth centuries that his chief laurels were won, and this was the arena in which he accomplished the greater portion of his literary work. In 1823, the year after his election, he read before the Literary and Philosophical Society a sketch of the life and writings of Ferdusi, together with specimens of his poems. At that time he had not reached the age of thirty. It is thus manifest that Mr Robinson was a Persian scholar before he entered upon his business career. It was not until after the close of that career when the first volume of translations issued from the press. This was "Flowers culled from Persian gardens," and was published in 1870. Three years later the analysis, and specimens of the poem of Joseph and Zuleikha by Jami followed, and in the same year a memoir of the life and writings of Nizami, a translation from the German of Dr Baehner, a scholar whom Mr Robinson held in profound esteem. It was compared with the Persian original, "line by line and word by word." In 1875 "A century of Ghazels, or a hundred odes, by Hafiz," appeared. In 1876 another volume was issued: it was "Flowers culled from the Gulistan (or rose garden) and from the Bostan (or pleasure garden) of Sadi." In the same year the substance of the first paper read more than half a century previously was issued in a volume, uniform with the series of translations. The quotations were newly translated, and additional examples were given. Shortly before the termination of the life of Mr Robinson a new edition of his translations from the Persian was published in a single volume, and copies were presented to the chief libraries of the world. Mr Clouston, the well-known oriental scholar, assisted to carry the work through the press.

Although the acquaintance of Mr Robinson with the rich literature of Persia, and his translations of portions of the writings of its poets constitute his

chief claim to literary celebrity, it is nevertheless true that to the reader of ordinary attainments, these furnish less means of estimating his genius, and afford less opportunity of catching a glimpse of the character of the man, than his more fugitive writings. To most, the language of Persia is an unknown tongue, and the philosophy and imagery which it embalms are strange, therefore to the general reader, there is wanting much of the force and more of the beauty which they reveal to the erudite scholar.

Mr Robinson was wont to range the fields of the European classics and the literature of Modern Europe to find sentiments congenial to his enlightened mind and cultured taste, and knowing this we are enabled in his translations to read as it were between the lines, and to detect the Englishman beneath the mask of Schiller, or of Horace. But in his Persian studies, the object was of a different character. He wished to bridge the gulf which effectually separated us from a brilliant and florid Asiatic literature which endured from the time of Athelstan to the close of the wars of the Roses; a period anterior to our own Augustan era. For this purpose he required to imitate Shakspeare in one important particular; namely, to efface himself. However, in the notes appended to the translations we are not altogether left without the means of tracing the thoughts of the writer of them. The following extract from the *Shah-namah* of Ferdusi taken from the episode of Lal and Radarah, a description rich in simile, will not fail to bring the Book of Canticles to the remembrance of the reader:—

Then a chief of the great ones around him  
Said: O thou, the hero of the world,  
This Mihrab hath a daughter behind the veil,  
Whose face is more resplendent than the sun;  
From head to foot pure as ivory;  
With a cheek like the spring, and in stature like a teak  
tree;  
Upon her silver shoulders descend two musky tresses,  
Which, like nooses, fetter the captive;  
Her lip is like the pomegranate, and her cheek like its  
flower;  
Her eyes resemble the narcissus in the garden;  
Her eye-lashes have borrowed the blackness of the  
raven;  
Her eye-brows are arched like a fringed bow.  
Wouldst thou behold the mild radiance of the moon?  
Look upon her countenance!  
Wouldst thou inhale delightful odours? She is all  
fragrance;

She is altogether a paradise of sweets,  
Decked with all grace, all music, all thou canst desire.  
She would be fitting for thee, O warrior of the world  
She is as the heavens above to such as we are.

The following note respecting an expression in the foregoing passage is introduced in order to shew how comprehensive and informing were the criticisms of the translator:—

Note.—As it may throw light on this and some other passages, it may perhaps not be unimportant briefly to notice that a great and essential difference lies between our writers and those of the East in the use of comparisons and similitudes. We require the thing compared to agree with the object of comparison in the major part, or at least in a considerable number of its points, whereas the Eastern poet seeks only for a single point of resemblance. For example—No comparison occurs more frequently in Persian poetry than that between a beautiful woman and the moon—a comparison which, with our ideas, is apt to excite some ludicrous associations. Yet, it is certain that no such associations enter into the mind of the Persian poet, who simply means to ascribe to the countenance of his mistress the mild radiance and softened lustre so beautifully ascribed to that planet by Pope in these exquisite verses:—

"So when the sun's broad beam has tired the sight,  
All mild ascends the moon's more sober light;  
Serene in virgin modesty she shines,  
And, unobserved, the glaring orb declines.

In this, and in all similar cases, it would be a good rule for the translator from the Persian to introduce now and then a word which should mark the point of resemblance—"An eye *radiant* as the moon," "A hero *strong* as an elephant, and *valiant* as a lion." It may just be observed in passing that this Oriental use of figures illustrates the application of many parables in the Sacred writings—those, for instance, of "The unjust steward" and "The importunate widow."

The words employed in the foregoing note to describe the appearance of the moon in the clear skies of the East constitute almost a poem in themselves—mild radiance and softened lustre.

From a poem of the appalling length of 120,000 lines it would not be easy in the compass of a few short extracts to give any adequate idea of the whole of its character and scope. The following is a portion of the address of Ardashir to the Nobles of Persia:—

To pass quietly through the world four paths lie before thee,  
Which thou mayst tread in piety and faith;  
In which thou mayst increase thy health of body and peace of mind,  
And taste the honey without the poison.  
First, through ambition and avarice, attempt not to go  
Beyond what the bounty of the All-giver hath assigned thee  
Whoever is contented, he is rich;

For him the rose tree of the fresh spring leaveth innumerable flowers.

Secondly, court not battles and glory,  
For battles and glory bring with them grief and pain.  
Thirdly, keep thine heart afar from sorrow,  
And be not anxious about the sorrow which is not yet come.

Fourthly, meddle not in a matter which is not thine;  
Pursue not the game which concerneth not thee.  
O, thou who wouldst penetrate to the marrow of the subject,

Break off thy heart from this old hostelry,  
For, like you and me, it hath seen many guests,  
Nor will it suffer anyone to rest long within it.  
Whether thou be king, or whether thou be servant,  
Thou must pass on whilst itself remains permanent.  
Whether thou be in sorrow, or whether thou be enthroned and crowned,

Thou must at a word bind up thy package.

If thou art made of iron, destiny will wear thee down,  
And when thou art aged he will not fondle thee;  
When the heart-delighting cypress is bowed,  
When the sad narcissus is weeping,  
When the rosy cheek is saffron,  
When the head of the joyous man is heavy,  
When the spirit slumbereth, and what was erect is bowed down,

Wouldst thou remain alone, the companions of thy journey all departed?

Whether thou be monarch, or whether thou be subject,  
No other resting-place shalt thou have but the dark earth.

Where are the mighty ones with their thrones and crowns?

Where are the horsemen elated with victory?  
Where those bold and intelligent warriors?  
Where those valiant and exalted chieftains?  
Their only pallet now is the earth and a few bricks—  
Happy, if only they have left a fair fame!

No poet on the east of Palestine, and perhaps no poet on the west of that land has enjoyed a wider celebrity than Sadi. The wit and wisdom evinced is the more piquant by the general simplicity and clearness of his style, which contrasts with the diffuse diction and hyperbole in which most of the Persian writers indulged.

From "The Culistan or Rose Garden," the following is taken :—

Never had I complained of the vicissitudes of fortune, or saddened my face at the revolution of the heavens, except once on a time when my foot was naked, and I had not wherewithal to purchase a shoe. Entering the great Mosque of Nufah, I saw there a man who had no feet. Then I converted my lament into

gratitude and praise for the goodness of God, and bought my want of shoes with patience.

The next quotation is from "The Bostan, or Pleasure Garden" :—

A sultan Takish once committed a secret to his slaves, which they were enjoined to tell again to no one. For a year it had not passed from his breast to his lips; it was published to all the world in a single day. He commanded the executioner to sever with the sword, their heads from their bodies without mercy. One from their midst exclaimed, "Beware! slay not the slaves, for the fault was thine own. Why didst at thou dam up at once what at first was but a fountain? What availeth it to do so, when it is become torrent? Take heed, that thou reveal to any one the secret of thy heart, for he will divulge it to all the world. Thy jewels, thou mayst consign to the keeping of thy treasurer, but thy secret reserve for thine own keeping.

Whilst thou utterest not a word, thou hast thine hand upon it; when thou hast uttered it, it hath hid its hand upon thee."

Not one of the poets of Persia was more popular than Hafiz. It has been said that, however small the collection of books in a house might be, a copy of the verses of this oriental Anacreon would be found among them. The following ode is from "A century of Ghazals" :—

O breeze, whence hast thou the fragrance of my beloved? Thou hast stolen it from her odoriferous breath. Have a care how thou committest a theft on her! What has thou to do with her wavy-ringlets?

O Rose, what art thou in the presence of her lovely face? Sweet as the musk she is; and thou, thy fruit is a thorn.

Sweet-basil, where art thou compared with the tender down of her cheek? She is all freshness, and thou art soiled with dust.

What art thou, Narcissus, in view of her sportive eyes? Hers are but merry, but thine are tipsy ones, Cypress, where art thou, beside her graceful stature? How wilt thou be valued any longer in the garden?

O wisdom, what is there to choose between thee and the reality of her affection?

Of "Joseph and Zulaikha" by Jami, Mr Robinson writes :—

The poem, of which a full analysis and very copious specimens are now, so far as the translator is aware, for the first time submitted to the English reader, is one of the most celebrated in the Persian language, and is considered by competent judges to be the finest work which exists in the East.

A few passages from the truly poetical and lofty

conceived "Celebration of Divine Greatness" is all that available space permits being reproduced here. We are familiar with expression that Divine love is ready to forgive, and to receive again the repentant sinner. The comforting doctrine and blessed truth is the more acceptable in this form because all who hear it feel that they are included in its embrace. But there are particular sins from which even the abandoned shrink, such as that one combining meanness with falsehood in the form of universally-loathed hypocrisy, and it requires the oldest flight of the poet to make the wretch who has been guilty of such sin become the object of Divine favour. Indeed, we may seek long before a parallel can be found to the magnificent passages which Mr Robinson has by his own genius presented in the familiar garb of our own language so worthily—

The High God—the Eternal—the All-knowing—  
Who is able to give strength to him that is weak;  
Who hath lighted up the sky with the host of heaven,  
And ornamented the earth with the multitude of men,  
He planned the vault of the revolving sphere,  
And fixed it on the walls of the four elements;  
He planted the musk-pod in the heart of the rose,  
He clasped its ornaments round the beautiful rose  
bush;  
He wove the delicate vestures for the brides of the  
Spring;  
He gave its stature to the cypress on the rivulet.  
He gives its loftiness to every lofty thought,  
And abases to humility every self-lauding fancy,  
Forgives the sins of the reckless drunkard,  
And takes back to his service the repentant hypocrite,  
He is the companion of the lonely night-watchers,  
The comrade of those who toil through the day;  
From the ocean of His kindness the vernal cloud  
Sheds its water on the thorn and the jessamine;  
From the mine of His bounty the autumnal wind  
Spangles with gold the carpet of the meadow;  
From His being flows that burning sun,  
By which every atom is penetrated with light.  
Were He to hide His face from sun or from moon  
Its ball would drop into the void of non-existence.  
On us His favour has bestowed our being,  
For He is, and His being gives being to us.  
From the vault of heaven to the centre of the earth  
Shouldst Thou travel without stopping on the foot of  
conjecture or contemplation;  
Shouldst thou descend downwards, or shouldst thou  
hasten upwards,  
Thou canst not go beyond the bounds of His wisdom.

Devotion to the muses was a life-long passion with Mr Robinson. They were wooed in his early manhood, and during his business career they were

never forgotten, as the *Nectes Dubinsfeldians* testify. And when the great sorrow descended upon him, a sorrow from which the late Mr John Cheetham assured the writer his friend and colleague never recovered, the gentle muse (as in the case of our Laureate) poured some drops of anodyne into his lacerated heart—

But for the unquiet heart and brain,  
A use in measured language lies;  
The sad mechanic exercise,  
Like dull narcotics numbing pain.  
In words, like weeds, I'll wrap me o'er,  
Like coarsest clothes against the cold;  
But that large grief which these enfold  
Is given in outline, and no more.

The "large grief" was too sacred to be much spoken of, or expressed pointedly in the printed poems, but that it is "given in outline" in the following translation from Catullus will scarcely be disputed—

If e'er the tribute of a mourner's tears  
To the mute sepulchre could grateful prove,  
When we recall the friends of former years,  
Or weep with vain regret for blighted love  
Surely far less must be Quintilia's woe  
So to be snatched away in life's young bloom,  
Than is her joy the tender love to know,  
With which her Calvus tends her honoured tomb.

When publishing his translations from the German Mr Robinson hinted at the consolation he had derived from his poetical labours, by the adoption of a verse by Schiller, which he translated and placed as a motto at the commencement of his book—

I do not know what I should be  
My gentle muse, by thee forgot;  
But, sick at heart, am I to see  
What thousands are who know thee not.

The poetic fire was only extinguished with life. Within two months of his departure, and when in ten his decade, a translation from the Portuguese was made by Mr Robinson, and the sonnet from Camoens, addressed probably to a lady named Viola, was thus rendered into English verse—

A garden's flower-enamelled lawn to pace,  
Where hue and scent alike for mastery strove,  
Entered one day the beautiful Queen of Love,  
With her who rules the Forest and the Chase.  
A pure white rose upon her breast to place  
Plucked Dian: a red lily of the best  
Venus placed rather; but before the rest  
The violet shone in beauty and in grace.  
Cupid they questioned, who was standing nigh;

Of those resplendent flowers which of the three  
As purest, sweetest, loveliest, he chose.  
"Lovely are all," he smiling said; "but I,  
If the choice lay with me, should hold more dear  
Violet by far than lily or than rose."

Wilmslow.

ALFRED FRYER.

#### THE EARLY HISTORY OF STOCKPORT.

The following is the text of the paper read by Mr H. Heginbotham, J.P., before the members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Society of Antiquaries, at the Court House, Stockport, on May 27th.

##### THE ROMAN ROAD AND FORD.

Stockport is placed upon the river Mersey. It is undisputed that it was occupied by the Romans. The only point in question appears to be the extent of Roman works here. At all events, it was at least an outpost in connection with the great camp at Manchester. The Roman road from Manchester to Stockport descended into the valley of the Mersey by a rapid decline from the high lands on the Lancashire side behind the Tiviot Dale Station. It then crossed the river in front of the station, the approach on each side being paved. My highly esteemed friend, the late Dr. William Rayner, who resided opposite, has informed me on several occasions that he had often seen a part of the paved way on a Sunday morning in a dry summer.

After the passage of the river, the road ascended on the eastern side of the hill underneath the walls of the castle. It is very probable that the town of Stockport had its origin partly from the necessity for the frequent accommodation required by travellers waiting for the subsidence of the sudden floods to which the river was subject from its nearness to the hills, and partly from the wants of the retainers at the castle. About a hundred yards below the ford stood the town house of the Tattons of Wythenshawe, on the Lancashire side of the river, which was swept away a few years ago by the levelling tendencies of railways. This family kept a boat upon this portion of the river, which was exceedingly deep, for recreation and fishing. The steps leading from the mansion, cut in the solid rock, still remain. This pool was greatly frequented by fishermen, and in former times contained large quantities of salmon, trout, and other smaller fishes. The fishing was strictly preserved, and the Court Leet Records contain instances in which offenders were heavily punished for taking salmon in the quiet season. When the silk mills were leased in 1732 the Lord of the Manor retained the right of fishing and the fish in all the water sluices.

##### THE CASTLE

was built upon a formidable rock, bold and prominent, placed so as effectually to command the river at the only fordable point in this neighbourhood, for as

already said the river below was exceedingly deep, and the rugged rocky banks rendered its passage then absolutely impossible. It is universally admitted that the castle here was held by the Romans, the only difference amongst historians is as to its extent. It formed an outpost to the great camp at Manchester, and most probably remained as a defence to the time of the Norman Invasion, when the whole of this district was ruthlessly destroyed, and in nearly every instance in which places in this parish are mentioned in the Norman survey their descriptions are closed in the very expressive words "Wasta fuit," it was wasta.

##### THE CHARTER.

The early history of the Stokeports is rather obscure, but there is no doubt there were lords of this town in the 13th century and early in the 13th. The second Sir Robert de Stokeport, who was Lord of Stockport from 1206 to 1289, conferred important privileges upon the town and made it a free borough by the grant of a charter, which is undated, but which may be safely referred to 1280, and is generally admitted to have been one of the first granted in this district. The original charter is not known to be in existence, but I have a copy which is the oldest known. This was evidently written in the early part of the reign of King Henry the Eighth, about the year 1530, and has upon it strong confirmatory endorsements. The one referring to its authenticity runs thus: "This copie wee sawe examined with the originall deed, and it doth agree with the same, which we are ready to testifie whenever we shalbe thereunto lawfully called.—Alexander Elcocke, Thos. Simkin." Simkin was parish clerk from 1597 to 1642. This charter, which provides for strong local government, contains two very important provisions—1st, that each burgess should have a perch of land to his house, an acre of land in the field with other valuable privileges, on payment of a shilling a year to his lord; 2nd, the burgess should have the right to elect out of their own body a mayor or chief magistrate, who is styled in the later charter "Prepositus." This annual appointment fell in abeyance, and was annually made by the lord or his steward; but in the reign of Queen Elizabeth the burgesses claimed their right to elect the mayor. The claim being resisted legal proceedings were commenced, and the subject was referred to arbitration. The award of the arbitrators still exists. A compromise was made, by which the lord was empowered to select four names from the list of burgesses from which the Court Leet should select the mayor. The terms of their award were acted upon until the appointment of the mayor was provided for in the Municipal Act of 1835.

##### THE COURT LEET

was held with all the usual formalities. The retiring mayors, by right, became aldermen for life, and took

their rank by seniority. Records of the court were kept, which, during the early part of the Civil War, were deposited for safety with the rector. His living, however, was sequestrated and his property seized. The court rolls are mentioned in the record of their proceedings, which are preserved in the British Museum, as being deposited in the hands of Alderman Harper. There seems to be no further official notice of their existence. Within the last few years a number have been found, and access to which has been kindly afforded to me, and I have been enabled by their examination to add considerably to the list of mayors of Stockport. This roll contains the first records of the Court Leet after the Restoration, extending from 1660 to 1667. To this roll considerable interest attaches, as there is upon the last year's record a similar endorsement to one which appears upon the back of the charter, the examination of both having been made by the commission appointed after the Restoration to investigate the cases of the Royalists whose property had been sequestrated by the agents of the Parliament, with a view to their being restored. The admission of burgesses was recorded on each roll, and a formal document on parchment was given on admission, recording the circumstances under which the burgess was admitted. I have one dated in the 35th year of the reign of King Henry the Eighth, 1544. It is beautifully written, and records the admission of a burgess in the eleventh year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, 1569. I have several similar records.

In 1833 Parliament issued a commission of inquiry into the powers and privileges of the local courts with a view to the introduction of the Municipal Corporations Acts. It held its sittings in this room on October 25th and 26th in that year. The evidence they received is embodied in this volume of reports, which I obtained through the courtesy of the librarian of the House of Commons, who kindly placed for my reference the various books in which any mention was made of this town, through the recommendation and introduction of Sir Edward Watkin, who has on all occasions most kindly facilitated my inquiries into the history of Stockport. This commission had laid before it many of the documents that I have submitted to you, and have fully referred to them in their report.

#### THE OBSOLETE PUNISHMENTS OF STOCKPORT.

The Court Leet was invested with the usual powers of punishing local crimes of the character usually possessed by such bodies. I find the following entries in the Records of the Court Leet of October 4, 1664, 17 chas. 2:—

Ordered likewise that the Lord of the Barrony doe put in good repaire the cage, the stockes, the rogues post, and the cuckstoole before Martinmas next sat pona v. li.

The brank, or scold's bridle, must then have been in excellent condition, as it is not included in that resolution. It certainly was a most formidable instrument. Although of light construction, unlike many others, it was strengthened by side bars to the top of the head, and when the gag, at the end of which is a bulb in which are inserted light sharp iron pins, its power upon the offending woman must have been most effectual, and by the least pull upon the chain and strap inflicted brutal injury upon the interior of the mouth of the victim. It is unlike most others for another feature, the chain is connected to the front of the instrument, and leads to the inference that the wearer must have been led through the streets. There is no living proof of its having been used, but the collector of the tolls more than 50 years ago, and recently deceased, informed me that it was placed in the hands of the contractor for the tolls, and hung in the market-place each day as a terror to evildoers, and that it was brought out on one occasion, to his knowledge, to a termagant woman to be applied, but that she was terrified into peace and obedience. There was formerly one in the possession of the authorities of the workhouse, which was sold for old iron.

#### LANCASHIRE BRIDGE.

The river Mersey in former times, before the abstraction of the water from the Etherow portion for the supply of Manchester, was a formidable stream subject to night floods during stormy weather in consequence of its great branches rising in the mountains at a short distance from Stockport. King, in his *Vale Royal*, written about the year 1612, says: "Runs Mersey with great force, or rather fury, under a great stone bridge." As the passage over the river has at all times been the chief means of communication from the north to the south of England, a bridge at this point appears to have been considered necessary for more than 500 years, for we find as early as 1374 an entry in the Episcopal Registers at Lichfield, that the bishop granted a licence to Thomas, the son of Henry of Manchester, chaplain, that he might celebrate Divine service in an oratory within his hermitage at the end of the bridge at Stockport. This oratory was most probably so fixed in order that the faithful might practically acknowledge their gratitude at having safely passed this dangerous stream.

The bridge which existed in 1745 was blown down to intercept the progress of the rebel army, after which part of the present bridge was erected. Narrow as the present bridge is it has been widened on two subsequent occasions, and is now ill adapted for the traffic passing over it. At the end of the last century there was no Warren-street, and at the Cheshire side of the river there was an archway only allowing access to a narrow lane to one of the manorial mills.

In Oulton's *Travellers' Guide*, dated 1805, the writer says:—"Over the Mersey is a stone bridge



founded on a red rock, with one arch allowed to be the largest in the kingdom." Its span is 57 feet 3 inches.

#### UNDERBANK HALL

is one of those beautiful old structures which are rapidly passing away. From its construction it appears to have been built about the latter part of the 15th or the beginning of the 16th century, and has withstood the ravages of over 350 years. Of course, it has been well preserved by its possessors, more particularly by the family whose town residence it was for over three centuries. It was sold by the second Baron Alvanley, who rapidly disposed of his estates in the parish of Stockport. For this building he obtained three thousand guineas in 1823 from a banking company. The rest of the Arderne property in the parish of Stockport, including Harden Hall, was brought to the hammer in May, 1825, and realised the gross sum of £154,773 10s 0d. Underbank Hall is very ancient and picturesque. The three ornamental gables, with the porch and a small room above, its massive breasted boldly corbelled, and its powerful tie-beams and queen-posts, leave no doubt of its great age. In 1775 it contained 53 windows, which had increased to 69 in 1820, in which year the Government taxes paid amounted to over £322. The interior formerly contained some interesting features, but the necessities of commercial undertakings frequently destroy some of the finest ornaments of ancient architecture. The floral ceiling of the old drawing-room, now the banking-room, has given place to one made of panelled oak. The present banking-room contains the noble carved mantelpiece, emblazoned with shields of arms. Across the Underbank, a little to the west of this building, there was formerly an arch or gateway, supposed to have been for the defence and protection of this building. A little further to the west is another half-timbered house, in most excellent preservation, belonging to William Smith, Esq., J.P., who carefully preserves the ancient house, which formerly belonged to the Leghs of Adlington.

#### THE DUNGEON.

On passing up Little Underbank the arch across the street gives the idea that it also formed one of the ancient landmarks, but this is a modern bridge which forms a connection between the high levels above each side of the thoroughfare. This street was formerly the highroad through Stockport from Manchester to London. Turning to the left we see Rostron Brow, which will afford us an excellent idea of the strength of the position of the Market-place and Castle site for defence. The next brow to the Market was formerly named Wynn-hill, then Dungeon-brow, because in its upper part the dungeon was situated. In a deed dated 1692, lent to me by the late Lord Vernon, whose kindness in assisting my inquiries into the history will always be gratefully remembered, this little prison is thus

described: "One other little room under the outside Court house, commonly called by the name of the dungeon." The present name of this approach is the Mealhouse-brow, so called because at that end of the Market-place the Mealhouse stood.

#### THE MARKET-PLACE.

The Market-place was formerly a large open space—occupied by stalls removable when required—when public meetings were held, and it was a great convenience. The site of the castle, which is at the west end of the Market-place, has been considerably lowered—by about three yards—in order to accommodate it to market purposes.

#### THE CHURCH

is situated at the east end of the Market-place, where it is seen to great advantage. It would be impossible on this occasion to enter into a detailed history or description of this building. There must have been a church here at a very early period, as we find a Mattheus, clericus de Stokeport, one of the witnesses to a charter in the 13th century, many years before the granting of the charter to Stockport. Of the earliest church there are no records or remains, but the structure which preceded the present, and of which the existing chancel formed a part, was erected early in the fourteenth century. The painting, by one of our early Stockport artists, William Shuttleworth, is pronounced to be an excellent representation of its general appearance and proportions. The church, built of red sandstone, the prevailing geological foundation of this district, consisted of a tower, nave, and chancel, and was a venerable structure standing upon the site of the present church. The style of the architecture is "decorated," and its details, showing the strength of its buttresses with their moulded slopes and triangular heads, partaking somewhat of the early English characters, the diagonal position of the buttresses at the corner of the chancel, the high pitched roof with its parallel ribs and the strength of the timbers, the heavy stone mouldings of the cornice, but more particularly the predominance of the geometrical over the flowing tracery in some of the windows, unmistakably prove that the date of its erection was about the year 1334. This opinion is also confirmed by the presence of the statue or full-length figure of Richard de Vernoun, who is represented as being habited in his ecclesiastical robes with his hands folded on his breast, his head reposing on a lozenge-shaped cushion, and his feet on a dog couchant. Round the slab were carved these words, in ancient characters—

ICI GIST RICHARD VERNOUN  
PERSONNE D'EST ECLISE.

(Here lies Richard de Vernoun, the Parson of this Church.)

This statue has been recently restored, and unfortunately the old inscription has been covered and modernised.

THE NAVE

reached from the west end to the chancel, and at the west end there was a fine decorated window of five lights, much larger and more graceful than the east window, and underneath it was the chief entrance to church. The clerestory, extending the whole length of the nave, was embattled, and had on either side ten windows of four lights each. The clerestory and its windows, which were of the perpendicular style, appear to have been added early in the 16th century. The crest of the tower, which was built about a century later, was designed to correspond with it. The windows of the nave were like those in the chancel, and were beautiful specimens of decorated work, presenting great variety in their tracery. The chancel is, with the exception of the vestry, the only portion of the ancient fabric that remains, and for its size is admitted to be one of the best examples of the decorated style of architecture in the kingdom. It is difficult, however, at the present day to realise all its fine proportions, for much of the bold and massive work is hidden, the surface of the graveyard having been raised about half-a-yard by more than 50,000 burials. Mr Crowther, the architect of Manchester, with whom I had an interesting interview, showed me some drawings he made when a pupil in 1840, when two of the early windows then remained, and agreed with me in the opinion already expressed as to the age of this church.

THE COMMUNION SERVICE

of this church is very handsome and valuable; one portion of it is at least as old as 1581.

THE REGISTERS

are very perfect and well preserved. They commence in 1584, and amongst other noteworthy characters contain, as follows, the entry of the baptism of Judge Bradshaw, who was born at Marple and baptised at Stockport:—

December, 1602. John the sonne of Henrye Bradshawe of Marple was baptised the 10th.—  
Traitor.

The entry shows that the word *traitor* has been subsequently added by some zealous Royalist.\*

THE CHAPELS.

There were anciently four chapels in the nave, two at the eastern end of the south aisle, one named "The Lady Chapel," belonging to the Davenports of Bramall, and the other "The Chapel of St. Peter," belonging

\* By the kind permission of Dr. Heginbotham, the historian of Stockport, a facsimile of this entry will be given in the transcript of the Parish Registers now appearing in our Notes and Queries.—ED.

to the Ardernes of Harden and Stockport, and two at the east end of the north aisle, "The Chapel of St. Anthony," belonging to the Hydes of Norbury, now represented by the Leghs of Lyme, and "All Hallows Chapel," belonging to the Duckenfields. The owners of these chapels were the four prepositi or posts of the church.  
H. HEGINBOTHAM.

POWNALL F&E, WILMSLOW PARISH:

THE TOWNSHIP RECORDS.

The following is a continuation of the records relating to the Pownall Fee township, as found in the old parish chest at Wilmslow:—

£ s. d. q.

14th June, 1732.

Then Tho. Cash and Aaron Coppocke, being collectors of ye Land tax for last year, made their accounts, and had in their hands six shillings, which sum they pd. ye present constables as witness our hands. 0 6 0 0

Examined by us,  
J. WHITTAKERS,  
THO. POTTS,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
JOSEPH WALKER,  
PHILIP DALE,  
THO. HEALD, } Inhabitants.

14th June, 1732.

Then Tho. Cash and Jno. Coppock, for widdow Leigh Knevits (?), being constables, made their accounts, and appears in their hands three shillings, which is paid to ye present constables, as witness our hands. 0 3 0 0

Examined by us,  
JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
AARON COPPOCK,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
JOSEPH WALKER,  
THO. POTTS, } Inhabitants.

Ye present Const. you will find recd. 6d from ye collectors of ye Land tax as will appear.

14th November, 1732.

Then John Rowson and James Hardie made their accounts, being constables for last year, and appears in their hands one pound seventeen shillings, which sume is paid to ye present const., as witness our hands. 1 17 0 0

Examined by us,  
JMS. WHITTAKERS,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
THO. POTTS,  
JOSEPH WALKER,  
THO. HEALD, } Inhabitants.

14th June, 1732.

Then Phillip Dale made his accounts

for being overseer of ye highways in Morley for last yr. theire appears in his hands six shillings and three pence, which is paid to John Taylor, present overseer, as witness our hands.

0 6 3 0

Examined by us,  
J. WHITTAKER, }  
JOHN TAYLOR, } Inhabitants.  
THOMAS CASH, }

24th January, 1732-3.

Received then by me, Dennis Grundy, of ye parish of Deane, in ye County of Lancaster, from Joseph Walker, one of ye overseers of ye poor of Pownall Fee, the sume of three pounds in full of what was given my present wife Eliz. (late Elizabeth Hewitt) and lodged in the said Fee for her use. I say received in full of all accounts.

3 0 0 0

DENNIS GRUNDY.  
his X mark.

JOHN PRESTON,  
WM. ALCOCK.

[There is a difficulty in understanding this transaction.]

14th May, 1733.

Then James Hardie and Jno. Rowson, being collectors for ye Land tax for last year, made their accounts, and appear to have nothing in their hands, their receipts being lodged in the chest.

0 0 0 0

Examined by us,  
J. WHITTAKER,  
JAMES KEISALL,  
JOSEPH WALKER,  
JOHN WORTHINGTON,  
THOMAS CASH,  
JON. HULME,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
THO. HEALD, } Inhabitants.

14th May, 1733.

MEMORANDUM, Then agreed between ye Inhabitants of Styall and Morley about ye Gravell to be gott in Bollin, near Overaleyford Bridge, for ye repair of ye sd Highways in Both towns That ye Inhabitants of Styall shall have whole Libertie to gett it for one year, and the Inhabitants of Morley the same Libertie to gett it another, and so successively to be observed for ye time to come. The Inhabitants of Morley to have it this year which shall end the last of December next, and that to be the settled time of leaving getting for either towne that hath had it in possession the year before. Any Inhabitant Breaking into this Rule shall pay ye Surveyor of ye Highways of that towne in possession of ye gravell sixpence per loads for every Load of Gravell soe

carried away contrary to this agreement. As witness our hands being inhabitants:—

JMS. WHITTAKER,  
JOHN WORTHINGTON,  
WM. ALCOCK,  
THO. POTTS,  
PHILIP DALE,  
AARON COPPOCK,  
JAMES KEISALL,  
JOSEPH WALKER,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
THOMAS CASH,  
JOHN WORTHINGTON,  
PETER WARBURTON,  
DARRAH HYDE,  
[Deborah Hyde].

Indenture dated 1 January, 1733, whereby John Worthington and Thomas Cash, overseers, bind Francis Beck, a poor boy of Pownall Fee, to Thomas Potts, of Styall, for seven years, to be well and truly instructed in the art of being a husbandman.

Signed and sealed by the contracting parties in the presence of

EDWARD GANDY  
ROBT. MEAKIN (?)

and countersigned by Justices,

H. WRIGHT,  
CHA. DUKINFIELD.

An Indenture made 29 Sep., 1733, whereby the overseers of Pownall Fee, John Worthington and Thomas Cash, bind Isaac Turson, otherwise Withington, a poor boy of Pownall Fee, to Ralph Stopford, of Manchester, a Tape weaver, apprentice for the term of six years. The premium was forty shillings, with the usual covenants on each side respectively. Signed and sealed by the contracting parties in the presence of

HUGH BURGESS,  
W. WORTHINGTON.

To the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the Township of Styall, in the Parish of Wilmslow and County of Chester, and to all other persons whom it may concern.

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, churchwardens and overseers of the Poor of the Township of Timperley, in the sd County of Chester, Doe hereby Certifye, own, and acknowledge that Aaron Berry, Elizabeth, his wife, Martha and Mary, their two children, or any other child or children lawfully begotten by the sd Aaron on the body of the said Elizabeth, or any other wife or wives, and when such issue being borne are inhabitants Legally settled in our sd Township of Timperley.

Given under our hands and seals this One and Twentieth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty-three. Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of

HENRY LEICESTER, NATHANIEL TIMPERLEY, ○  
 THOMAS WALKER, THOMAS SIMPSON, ○  
 his  
 WILLIAM M. ORRISON. ○  
 mark.

We have here a sheet upon which the orders of a town's meeting or a committee have made their orders for the relief of the poor, as follows:—

11th January, 1783.

Jehn Brown's girl to be bound out at Midsummer next.

Martha Hunt to have 1s per week and 5s for rent.

Daniel Harrison to have 3s 6d per month.

John Wyatt to have — a week.

Henry Chapman 1s per week.

Swindell's child 1s per week—to be bound out.

Sam. Standley 1s per week.

Margaret Wyatt 10s 10d per quarter.

Mary Kenworthy 1s per week.

Widow Tweeson 1s a week till May Day.

Joshua Hunt 6d per week.

Mary Hunt 3d per week, to commence at May Day.

Tho. Bray 1s 3d per week.

Sarah Hulme 1s per week.

Sarah Hulme, Abigail Roylance, Joshua Hunt, these to have no house-rent after May Day.

25th May, 1784.

Then Robt Smith and Francis Hulme, for his aunts, made their accounts, which ownes ye receipt of ye afore sune for being constables fr last year, and there appears in their hands fifteen shillings, which sune is paid to ye present constables, as witness our hands and Examined by us 0 15 0 0

J. WHITTAKERS,  
 JAMES KELSALL,  
 WM ALCOCK,  
 JOHN TAYLOR,  
 AARON COPPOCK, } Inhabitants.

25th June, 1784.

Then Robert Smith and Francis Hulme, being collectors of ye Land tax for last year, made their accounts, and had in their hands sixteen shillings and sixpence, which sune is paid to ye present overseers. 0 16 6 0

Examined by us,

J. WHITTAKERS,  
 JAMES KELSALL,  
 JOHN TAYLOR,  
 AARON COPPOCK,  
 JNO. HENSHAW,  
 WM. ALCOCK, } Inhabitants.

23 May, 1784.

Then John Taylor, overseer of ye highways fr the Old Yew-tree house in Morley, made his accounts for last year but one, and there appears in his hands nothing ..... 0 0 0 0

Examined by us,

J. WHITTAKERS,  
 PETER WARBURTON, } Inhabitants.  
 THOMAS CASE,  
 PHILIP DALL,

23 May, 1784.

Then James Whittakers, overseer of ye highways for Morley for ye year 1783, made his accounts, and there appears in his hands nothing. 0 0 0 0

Examined by us,

PHILIP DALL,  
 THOMAS CASE, } Inhabitants.  
 PETER WARBURTON,  
 JOHN TAYLOR,

Memorandum.—J. Whittakers served for Quarrell Bank.

An Indenture of apprenticeship, made the 11th June, 1784, by which William Alcock and John Tayler, overseers of the poor of Pownall Fee, bind Mary Brown, a poor girl of Pownall Fee, apprentice to Mary Bradbury, who covenants to instruct the said Mary Brown in the business and employ of spinning of wool and in all other business that the said Mary Bradbury shall follow or be employed in "during a term of eight years." The premium was three pounds, to be paid as the poor lays hereafter to be assessed and imposed on the sd. Mary Bradbury's Estate, lying in Pownall Fee aforesaid, became due, &c., &c. Signed and Sealed by the said contracting parties, and witnessed by Ralph Partington and Hannah Mainwaring.

This document is not counter-signed by two justices,

An indenture of apprenticeship made 14 Oct., 1784, whereby William Alcock and John Taylor, overseers of the Poor of Pownall Fee, bind as an apprentice John Tureson, otherwise Withington, a poor boy of Pownall Fee, to Peter Blease, of Ros-therne, a Tailor, for a term of seven years, premium £3 1s 0d. Signed by the contracting parties in the presence of

JOHN ASHTON,

W. WORTHINGTON.

Counter-signed by Justices,

CHA. DUKINFIELD,

W. BLACKBURN.

Leigh.

WM. NORBURY.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1886.

## Notes.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

x.

In my last paper I alluded to three young men working together in the Park Mill in the year 1810, namely, Ralph Pendlebury, James Wilkinson, and James Elliott Turner, who have all become conspicuous characters in Stockport. Of the two former, who became Mayors of Stockport, I have nothing further to say at present. Although Mr Turner never attained to the honour of being chief magistrate, still at one time he was the most conspicuous character of the three. I was very young when he first came under my notice. At this time he was the principal auctioneer we had in Stockport. It is true we had men in Stockport who had followed this calling for a longer period, and who worked hard to retain their positions as auctioneers. I will name two, whom I well knew—Mr Candeleit and Mr Lambert, senior. Mr Turner's gentlemanly appearance (which has much to do with a person's prosperity), his ready speech, cheerful disposition, his punctual attendance to business, and, above all, his integrity of purpose, gained for him the esteem and confidence of the public, and also gained him a welcome admittance to the highest circles of society in Stockport.

Mr Turner was the quarter-master of the Stockport troop of the Cheshire Yeomanry Cavalry, and he was considered by many to be the smartest-looking soldier in the troop. He was also the secretary to the Wellington Club. This club was composed of a number of loyal gentlemen, whose object was to uphold the Constitution and laws of old England, and to frustrate the doings of the revolutionary parties which were then growing rampant throughout the land. The Wellington Club held its meetings in the large room of the Warren Bulkeley Arms Inn. At one end of this room was a large portrait in oil of King George the Third; underneath was written, "No Jacobins admitted here;" at the other end of the room was a life-size portrait of the Duke of Wellington. The 18th day of June was a red-letter day with the members of this brotherhood. On the evening of this day they invariably held a grand banquet, to celebrate the Duke of Wellington's great

victory at the battle of Waterloo. There were several branches of this club; one was held at the "Jolly Hatters," in the Hillgate.

About forty-five years ago, a number of gentlemen connected with the "Wellington" made a practice of holding a grand banquet annually at the house of Mrs Paulden, at Fogg Brook, Oulton. Mr Turner had the management, and it was got up in a very sumptuous style. Lawyer Etchells, of Marple, was invariably chosen to be the chairman, and a set of glee singers from Stockport were always engaged to enliven the meeting between the toasts and speeches. Mr Etchells, who was no mean vocalist, generally favoured us by singing his favourite song, "The Holy Friar," which he could render in a masterly manner. A great friendship existed between Mr E. Turner and Mr John Marsland, the eldest son of Major Marsland. Mr Turner was warden of St. Thomas's Church, Heaton Norris, and Mr John Marsland was warden of St. Mary's, Stockport, at the same time. When anything particular took place at these two places of worship one warden was sure to invite the other, and Mr John Marsland, being a very wealthy gentleman, was generally appointed to go round with the collecting box. A special service took place at St. Mary's for the benefit of some Charity, and Mr Marsland invited his friend Mr Turner to attend, which he did. Mr Turner took his seat next to the pew door, and all went off well until the collection took place. Mr John Marsland came with his collecting box, and Mr Turner gave his mite freely. Then Mr Marsland went to the other occupants of the pew, and when he had collected off them he came and poked the box a second time before Mr Turner; Mr Turner gave several nods, indicating that Mr Marsland had been to him before; this had no effect, Mr Marsland still stood with his box before Mr Turner. At last Mr Turner rummaged in his pockets and found another coin; he put it in the box, at the same time vowing vengeance against Mr Marsland.

Time rolled on, and the season for the Charity sermons at St. Mary's Church drew nigh, and Mr Turner again received an invitation to attend from his friend Mr Marsland. At that time penny pieces were each fully an ounce in weight. Mr Turner got a five shilling packet of these penny

pieces, which would be near 4 lb in weight, and took it with him to the church. On his last visit to St. Mary's Mr Turner sat in the wardens' pew, which was under the organ loft; on the present occasion he went and sat in a pew in the centre of the nave, his thoughts being fixed more on mischief than worship. The liturgy over and the sermon having been preached, then came the time for the collection. Mr Marsland, who never looked so happy as when he was going round with the collecting box, was skipping about from pew to pew, and had one of his blindest smiles for every donor; at last came to the pew where his friend Turner sat, little thinking of the scene which was going to take place. Mr Turner had planted this five shilling packet in his coat sleeve, under the palm of his right hand. When Mr Marsland held the box before him he let the packet drop in the box with a sudden thud. The sequel was the box was knocked out of Mr Marsland's hand, and the contents were scattered on the pew floor. An ejaculation escaped Mr Marsland's lips which I will not name here, and he and a few occupants of the pew began to pick up the scattered coins. Mr Turner took great delight in telling this anecdote. Mr J. E. Turner was very successful as an auctioneer, and he had several very important sales during his career. He had the honour of disposing of the effects of the then Stockport painter, Mr Shuttleworth. The sale took place in the year 1829, and lasted four days. The late Mr F. Claye, father to Mr William Claye, printer, stationer, &c., of the Underbank, was Mr Shuttleworth's executor, and held the will of the testator. For some years before his death Mr Turner was very deaf, which was a great drawback to him in his business. The last great sale which Mr Turner conducted in Stockport was the disposal of the property, &c., of the late Lord Vernon, held in Stockport. This took place on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th days of November, 1850. Mr Turner died on May the 25th, 1858, aged 75 years, and was interred in the yard adjoining St. Thomas's Church, Heaton Chapel.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

# THE LIFE OF SAMUEL EATON.

## III.

Into this agitation Eaton threw himself with great vigour. Immediately on landing he appears to have repaired into Cheshire, where the people were soon on fire in consequence of certain sermons preached by

him, and by the following petition to Parliament which he assisted in drawing up:—

That whereas the manifold unsupportable burden wherewithal our consciences and estates have been long oppressed, with a continuall increase thereof, have at last so tyred and infeebled our strength that we find ourselves unable to subsist any longer under the weight thereof, wee dare not now neglect to take the present opportunitie serving the Lord's providence in the use of this meanes of which we hope is of his owne appoynting for our reliefe. But as we have in some measure implored God, who is the blessed Author; so wee thought ourselves bound humbly to Petition this honourable and renowned Assembly (convened in Parliament) for redress of our miseries, being the likeliest instrument, so fare as we apprehend (not limiting the Holy One of Israel) for that end and purpose, which we humbly pray may be duly considered, as we make bold to tender them in these few lines following:—"Our miseries are such as are either Ecclesiastical or Civill; first Ecclesiasticall, and that in regard of the usurping Prelates, their lawlesse dependent officers, and their irregular manner of worshipping God prescribed unto, and cruelly imposed upon us by them: for as touching the Prelates themselves we conceive to be the Pope's Substitutes (per accidens) at the least, if not by solemne covenanted allegiance, as it may appeare by their Lording it over God's heritage, both Pastors and People, and assuming the power of the Keyes onely to themselves, contrary to God's sacred word. Therefore we humbly petition you this honourable assembly, as you tender the glorie of God, the King's Prerogative, the subjects libertie, the purity of God's sacred Ordinances, and the welfare of Posteritie, or with the downfall of Antichrist and his adherents, to stirre up the zeale and strength wherewith the Lord hath endued you, and courageously proceed (unto your immortal praise) against these his mightie enemies and secret underminers of the good estate of our church and Common-wealth, and utterly dissolve their offices, which give life to the most superstitious practices in or about the worship of God: And so together with the ruine of their Anti-Christian Offices and Government, we also humbly pray may fall to the ground their impious Courts, with all their dependant officers (even from the Chancellors to the Parators), their corrupt Canons, booke of Articles, the English refined Masse-booke of Common Prayer, with all their Popish significant Ceremonies therein contained, the strict imposing whereof hath driven out of this our English nation many of our most godly and able ministers and other his Majestie's loyall subjects, able both for person and estate to have done good service to God, our King, and countrie.

Secondly, our Civill miseries are chiefly these:—

First.—That the tenths of all our goods should be taken from us by Parsons, Impropriators, and in some places by Recusants, under a pretence of maintaining the Ministerie; and yet notwithstanding wee forced in divers places to maintaine a Ministerie out of the rest of our estates, if we will have any, and to repaire our churches, which have beene of late very excessive and superstitious.

Secondly.—That Sutes in Law are so long unnecessarily detained in Civil Courts before judgment be had, whereby divers persons have their estates utterly ruined, and others much decayed.

Thirdly.—That the Oath in Courts Leet and Baronies

usually admistred without limitation, and before the charge be given, so that the jurors cannot sweare in judgment as the Lord requires they should.

Fourthly.—That the Countie Court is kept upon the Munday, and thereby we are put unto excessive charges in travelling thereto, unless wee should labour upon the Lord's day next before.

Fifthly.—That our Countrie is verie destitute of sufficient schoolemasters for the educating of our children, and fitting them for the service of our God, our King, and Common-weale.

Sixthly.—That there are such excessive fines by some Gentlemen imposed upon their Tenants as that thereby they are both disabled to maintaine their families (whence ariseth so many poore people) and to doe his Majestie service, and pay him lawfull tribute.

Therefore, that these our grievances, both Ecclesiasticall and Civill, may be redressed, and that the contrarie privileges which Christ hath purchased and commanded us to stand unto, may be ordained and established.

We most humbly beg that the revealed will of God contained in the Books of the Old and New Testaments, and recorded for our practice in the dayes of the gospell, may be that Rule which your Honors would be pleased to follow. O what glory would it be unto our God, our King, and nation, what beauty unto our Church, what honour unto this Noble Parliament, and what confusion to the enemies of his Majesty and loyall subjects: if wee might see the morall Doctrine of the Prophets and Apostles made old England's Canons; then might our Ministers have liberty to preach God's word (*sic*), and administer the Sacraments according to the mind of Christ, and our Congregation power to execute Ecclesiasticall Censures within themselves: Then might his Majesties subjects meete together, and pray for the King and Queene and their Posterity, without punishment and false Calumniation. O this would make our peace with God and good men; this would gaine our friends and scatter our enemies. This would make our land impregnable and our soldiers couragesable. This would unite our Kingdome in peace, and cause us and our little ones to sleepe in safety. This would cal backe the banished and release the Lord's imprisoned. This would advance our Mordecals and hang our wicked Hamans. This would replant our conscionable ministers, and supplant our Lordly Prelacy. This would take away illegal exactions, and bring our people to due subjection. This would take away extorted Herriots, excessive Fines, and unlimited Boones, for it would leaun land-Lords more compassion and Tenants due submission; yea, this would make a sweeter Harmony betwixt Rule and Obedience in all Relations.

Which that it may now happily be effected, we earnestly implore the Lord of Heaven to bend your noble spirits to this great work of God, which so sweetly ushereth al other comforts.

And so we shall ever pray, &c.

In the same unfriendly volume which has handed down to us the preceding document, we have also preserved "Certaine Positions preached at St. John's Church in Chst r by Mr Samuel Eaton, a minister lately returned from New England, upon Sunday, being

the third day of January, 1610, in the afternoon:—

First, That the names of Parsons and Vicars are antichristian.

2. The Parsons and Teachers of Particular Congregations must be chosen by the people, or else their entrance is not lawfull.

3. That all things which are of Humane invention in the worship of God (under which he seemed chiefly to comprehend the book of Common Prayer and the rites and Ceremonies therein prescribed) are unsavoury and loathsome unto God.

4. That Ecclesiasticall Censures of Admonition and Excommunication ought to be exercised by particular congregations within themselves.

5. That people should not suffer this power to be wrested out of their hands, and usurped by the Bishops.

6. That the supreme power in Church matters, not unto Christ, is in the Church, meaning (as he explained himselfe) particular Congregations; for he denied all Nationall, Provinciaall, and Diocesann Churches, as well as Bishops, and so expounded that text, Matt. 18, "Go ye to the Church," &c., of particular Congregations, or as we call them parochiall Churches.

7. That all good people should pray earnestly unto God and not cease to petition the Parliament for the raising of the old foundation (meaning as he plainly discovered himselfe) the abolishing of Episcopall Government, and the establishing of their new Presbyterian Discipline; as well for the purging all filth and Ceremonies out of the house of God.

8. That they that put not their hand to helpe forward this worke, may justly fear that curse pronounced against Meroz, Judges 5, "Curse you, Meroz, because they came not to helpe the Lord against His mighty enemies;" and there he expressly called the Bishops the mighty enemies of God and his church.

"Certayn other Positions preached by the same man at Knuttesford, a great Market Towne in the same County:—

9. That every particular Congregation is an absolute Church, and is to have all ordinances and officers within itselfe; the members of it must be onely Saints: these must enter Covenant amongst themselves, and without such a Covenant no Church.

10. That the power of the Keyes is committed not to the Pastors nor Governours, but to the whole Congregation, and to every particular member of the same: as Christ having committed them to everyone, would have every one demand an account of them, and therefore charged the people, as they would answer it at the day of judgement, to keep the Keyes amongst themselves, and not to suffer any authority to wrest them out of their hands.

11. That it is an heynous sin to be present when prayers are read out of a Book, either by the Minister or any other.

Sir Thomas Aston, in the tract from which we have made these extracts, goes on to complain that by the spreading of the Petition, and the public and frequent preaching of these and such like doctrines, a general discontent was stirred up among the common people: that the Prayer Book was brought into odium, and that many would not come into Church during divine

service (20). Eaton very likely suffered some persecution for his actions at this time, for, in the short autobiographical sketch previously referred to, he tells us that "what he hath suffered since (*i.e.*, between 1610 and 1616) for his opposition to Prelacy is known to not a few."

The prominent position taken by Eaton in this conflict brought him into close relationship with the famous Colonel Duckenfield, of Dukinfield, a firm Congregationalist, and one of the foremost leaders of the Puritan party in Cheshire and the North. Probably at his suggestion Eaton settled in this locality, and gathered together a congregation in the private chapel of the family at Dukinfield Hall. Thomas Edwards, in the third part of his "Gangrena, or, a new and higher Discovery of the Errors, Heresies, Blasphemies, and insolent Proceedings of the Sectaries of these times" (1646), states that "this church of Duckenfield is the first Independent church visible and framed that was set up in England, being before the apologists came from Holland, and so before their setting up churches here in London" (p. 165). This questionable piece of history is preluded by the following story, intended to turn the laugh upon the "Sectaries":—

"There is a godly minister of Cheshire, who was lately in London, that related with a great deal of confidence this following story as a most certaine truth, known to many of that county, that this last summer, the Church of Duckenfield (of which Master Eaton and Master Taylor are Pastor and Teacher) being met in their Chappell to the performing of their worship and service, as Master Eaton was preaching, there was heard the perfect sound as of a man beating a march on a drum, and it was heard as coming into the Chappell, and then as going up all along the Ile, through the people, and so about the Chappell, but nothing seen, which Master Eaton preaching and the people that sate in the severall parts of the Chappell heard, insomuch that it terrified Master Eaton and the people, caused him to give over preaching and fall to praying, but the march still beating, they broke up their exercise for that time, and were glad to be gone." The far-fetched moral of this episode is that the Independents were desirous of plotting for war, a policy which "shall break their necks, and break up their Conventicles, and cause the Kingdoms to cast them out as an abominable branch." In reply to this attack the Pastor and Teacher at Dukinfield issued the following book:—

A Just apologie for the Church of Duckenfield in Cheshire; Against certain slanderous Reports received by Mr Edwards, his over-much credulitie of what was said to the reproach of those that differ from himselfe in judgement (though but concerning matters merely of external order and things of

Inferior alloy to the substantiall Doctrines of Faith and Manners), rashly and without further examination of the truth of them (together with an overplus of his own Censures and uncharitable Animadversions) divulged by himselfe in a late book of his intituled The third part of Gangræa &c.

By { SAMUEL EATON, Teacher, } of the Church of  
and  
{ TIMOTHY TAYLOR, Pa. tour, } God at Duckenfield.

The name of Samuel Eaton is associated in the history of Duckenfield Chapel with that of Timothy Taylor. Following out what they understood to be the directions of St. Paul in Ephesians, iv., ii., they acted in the respective capacities of teacher and pastor—Eaton being selected for his power as a preacher of the Gospel, and Taylor for his aptitude for pastoral duties.

These divines worked together not only in their church and congregation, but through the press. Previous to the volume just mentioned they had issued several works of controversy. In 1645 they published a tract entitled, "A defence of sundry positions and scriptures alledged to justify the congregational-way; charged at first to be weak therein, impertinent and insufficient; by R[ichard H[ollingworth], M.A., of Magd. Col. Cambr., in his examination of them; but upon further examination, clearly manifested to be sufficient, pertinent, and full of power." The Rev. Richard Hollingworth having replied to this book, they issued a further volume the next year, 1646, entitled, "The defence of sundry positions and scriptures for the congregational-way justified: or an answer to an epistle written by Mr Richard Hollingworth, unto S. E. and T. T., wherein he (in many particulars) chargeth them with injurious dealing against God, and against himselfe, in that booke of theirs called, 'A defence of sundry positions, &c.' containing a vindication from such charges and aspersions so laid upon them. As also a briefe answer to his large (if not unreasonable) demands, to have scripturall or rationall answer given to his 112 queries."

By SAMUEL EATON, Teacher, } of { The Church at Duck-  
TIM. TAYLOR, Pastor. } e. f. d. in Cheshire.

"A Rejnynder" from Hollingworth concluded this animated, learned, and on the whole fairly conducted discussion on the congregational form of government (21).

These volumes serve to draw our attention to the great theme of debate in the year we have last mentioned. Episcopacy being for the moment relegated to a lower position in the public mind, a struggle had commenced between Presbyterians and Independents. The lions were fighting over the carcass. Adam Mon-

20. See A Remonstrance against Presbiterie, by Sir Thos. Aston, Baronet, 1641.

21. The whole of these tracts may be seen in the Chetham Library, Manchester.



tindale, in his diary (22), p. 61, says:—"This was that bustling year wherein the Presbyterian and Congregational governments were like Jacob and Esau struggling in the womb." Both parties were striving hard to gain the ascendancy, to the infinite loss and detriment to the great cause which both professed to have at heart, but which was for the time forgotten. There was little chance of escape from the controversy. The worthy minister just quoted "would fain have removed out of this hot climate into a cooler, but the people would not hear of it;" (23) while Eaton and Taylor themselves at first "chose rather to practice in silence, according to our own light, and quietly to follow the work we are called to in these parts, than to implead these that should plead against the way we walk in" (24).

Our limits will not permit us to do more than briefly mention some of the more important events of this period, necessary to illustrate the subject in hand. Having abolished the Episcopal government and liturgy of the Church, the Long Parliament set about the building up of something to supply its place. Accordingly on June 12th, 1643, the two houses summoned "an assembly of learned and godly divines for the settling of the government and liturgy of the Church of England, and for vindicating and clearing the doctrine of the said church from false aspersions and interpretations." This assembly consisted of 10 Peers, 20 Commons, and 121 Divines. One of the latter, Thomas Case, was for several years rector of the Parish Church of Stockport. The time of the assembly was chiefly occupied in polemical discussions between the Presbyterian and Independent sections, the former arguing for Uniformity, the latter, though fewer in numbers, as strenuously urging against it.

In the meantime, Presbyterian influence in the Houses of Parliament had caused the adoption of the Solemn League and Covenant on the 21st of September, 1643. The chief points of the covenant were—the preservation of the reformed religion in the Church of Scotland, the reformation of the Churches of England and Ireland, the abolition of Popery and the preservation of the rights and privileges of Parliament, the liberties of the kingdoms, and the person and authority of the King's Majesty. The oppressors hereupon became the oppressed. The covenant was placed in the hands of all ministers; and such of the Church party (and they very numerous) as refused to become a party to it were removed or "sequestered" from their livings. In Cheshire, in the years 1643-4, about 30 ministers were thus sequestered, either for refusing the covenant, or as delinquents or malignants, that is, champions of the Royalist cause against the

Parliament. Committees of Sequestrators were appointed in the various counties, and under their direction the flocks thus left untended were temporarily taken charge of by Independent or Presbyterian ministers. The following extracts from the accounts of the receipts and payments of the Committee of Sequestrators in Macclesfield Hundred (Harl MSS. 2130) (25), illustrate this period as well as our more immediate subject:—

Payments to ministers within the Parish of Stockport which serve at several chappells by order from Sir William Brereton and other Deputy-Lieutenants, and to ministers to supply the church of Stockport since the ejection of the parson.

Disbursements July 24th, 1645, to May 27th, 1647. Item to Mr Samuel Eaton and Mr Timothy Taylor, by virtue of an order from Sir William Brereton and other Deputy-Lieutenants..... 10 0  
Item April ye 30th, 1646. To Mr Samuel Eaton, minister at Duckenfield, by virtue of the said order ... 10 0

There are other items of payments to Mr Eaton and Mr Taylor.

In 1645 "The Directory for Public Prayer and Preaching" was issued, and the use of the Prayer Book was prohibited, under penalties progressing to the third offence to one year's imprisonment. The Presbyterians were now in a great majority in the country. Petitions were sent up to Parliament from various counties (the local petition numbering 125 signatures) praying for the establishment of the Presbyterian form of church government, and the suppression of congregations meeting without civil sanction. Accordingly on June 6th, 1646, the Parliament ordered the formation of classes and the election of elders and the division of the country into Presbyteries. London and Lancashire were the only districts in which the scheme was adopted. The activity of men like Eaton prevented its further extension. The Independent party in turn were gaining ground upon their opponents. They succeeded (in 1645) in passing through Parliament what was called the Self-Denying Ordinance, excluding the members of both Houses from all civil and military employments, and enacting that members might sit in Parliament without taking the covenant. In 1648 the Presbyterian members were excluded from the Parliament House by Colonel Pride, and the same year, the army, who had now the power all in their hands, published "The Agreement of the People." This consisted of a proposal to establish a Republic or Commonwealth, and offered protection in the profession and exercise of their religion to all who professed faith in God by Jesus Christ, "as long as they abuse not this liberty to the civil injury of others or the disturbance of the public peace." The next step was taken in the course of the following month when, against the voice of the people, and ministers of religion in particular (26), King Charles was put to

22. Publication of the Chetham Society, vol. iv.

23. Ibid, p. 65.

24. "A Defence of Certain Positions, &c." To the Christian reader.

25. Barwaker, East Cheshire, I., 403.

26. Neal's History of the Puritans, III., p. 349, et seq.

death. Immediately after this event a short oath entitled the Engagement was substituted for the solemn covenant. This oath ran as follows:—

I do promise to be true and faithful to the commonwealth of England, as the same is now established without a King or House of Lords.

This oath had to be subscribed by all persons of eighteen years of age and upwards under severe penalties; and all civil and military officers and ministers of religion were expected to take it, upon pain of forfeiting their positions or preferments. Naturally the affair caused a great stir amongst those ministers who previously signed the covenant. Much discussion took place in Lancashire and Cheshire as to the morality of signing the engagement. Into these debates Eaton was drawn, and a tract by him is extant dated 1650, and bearing the following title:—

The Oath of Allegiance and the National Covenant proved to be non-obliging; or three several papers on that subject, viz.:—1. Two positions with several reasons of them, and consequences flowing from thence. 2. An answer to the said positions. 3. A reply to the said answer, wherein the truth of the positions is vindicated, and the Oath of Allegiance and the National Covenant are made non-obliging.

The circumstances which led to the publication of this little volume are explained by Eaton in the address "to the reader." At the request of a gentleman of note in Lancashire, at whose house he was a frequent visitor, he wrote out and sent some arguments to prove the oath of allegiance to be non-obliging; but the letter was opened, and written copies circulated in the counties of Lancashire and Cheshire. A pamphlet in reply was issued next year, both which Eaton says, "are now printed to the view of the world by means of some brethren about Manchester, to whom a copy of the answer was sent without the knowledge and unto the offence of the author thereof, as I am credibly informed" (27.) Eaton responded in the tract we have just mentioned.

We must return after this digression to the "bustling year" 1646. In a letter dated the 10th of October of that year, we are informed that both Taylor and Eaton were wonderfully active both in Lancashire and Cheshire in opposing the advances of the Presbyterians. A nameless individual, indeed, had "threatened some of the godly ministers who live near him to make their places too hot for them for denying their pulpits to Mr Eaton" (28). In opposition to the Presbyterian petition already referred to, Eaton and his church promoted a counter petition desiring *liberty of conscience* as was promised by the House of Commons. No man worked harder in the Independent cause than the minister of Dukinfield. While still in charge of the congregation worshipping there, he was appointed

(previous to 1648) chaplain to the Chester garrison. During his residence in Chester he established the first Congregationalist church in that city. His connection with the army and its leaders caused him to be frequently absent in London, Scotland, and other places (29). These duties, together with the additional labour of visiting and encouraging the different Independent churches in Lancashire and Cheshire, and defending them against the attacks of Presbyterianism on one hand and Episcopalianism on the other, he soon found too much for him. He encouraged the pulpit eloquence of preaching members, "gifted brethren," a course which brought him into severe contact with his Presbyterian friends, who held that unordained persons, not candidates for the sacred office, should not be permitted to preach. Eventually by their high-handed proceedings and heterodox teachings, the gifted brethren became a thorn in the side of their friends, and, as we shall see in particular to Samuel Eaton. He, in fact, soon discovered that doctrines which even he could not tolerate were instilled into the minds of his flock in this neighbourhood during the periods of sometimes lengthened absence. He thereupon resigned his charge at Chester, where he was succeeded by John Knowles.

Knowles early proved himself to be in doctrine a Socinian; and the knowledge of this fact moved the founder of the church to an effort to counteract what he considered the corrupt teachings of his successor. He accordingly wrote and dedicated "To the Faithful in Christ in and about Chester," a work bearing the following extensive title (London, 1650):—

The mystery of God Incarnate; or, the Word made flesh cleared up, or a vindication of certain Scriptures (produced to prove the Divinity of Jesus Christ) from the corrupt glosses, false interpretations, and sophistical argumentations of Mr John Knowles; or a discourse by writing betwixt Mr Samuel Eaton and Mr Jo. Knowles, concerning the Divinity of Jesus Christ, in which Mr Samuel Eaton asserts it, and Mr. John. Knowles denies it. And also certain annotations and observations upon a pamphlet carrying the title "A confession of faith concerning the Holy Trinity, according to the Scriptures," together with the copie of a letter sent by him to the Committee of Gloucester, concerning his Faith, touching the Doctrine of the Trinity. By Samuel Eaton, teacher of the Church of Christ at Duckenfield.

A second edition of this book was issued the following year. Mr Knowles having replied to this, Eaton renewed the attack with

A vindication or further confirmation of some other Scriptures, produced to prove the Divinity of Jesus Christ, distorted and miserably wrested and abused by Mr John Knowles. Together with a probation or demonstration of the destructiveness and damnableness of the contrary doctrine maintained by the aforesaid Mr Knowles. Also the doctrine of Christ's satisfaction and of reconciliation on God's part to the creature cleared up from Scripture,

27. Earwaker, East Cheshire, ii, 31.

28. Gangrene, part iii, p. 167.

29. Martindale's Diary, p. 74.

which of late hath been much impugned, and a discourse concerning the springing and spreading of error, and of the preservatives against it. By Samuel Eaton, teacher of the Church of Jesus Christ, commonly styled the Church at Duckenfield (London 1631).

The efforts of Mr Eaton, assisted by Mr Murcot, of West Kirby, resulted in the removal of Mr Knowles from Chester. As a contemporary puts it, "Mr Eaton laboured to establish the people in the truth received, and to pluck up the stinking weed which had begun to spread, and fasten its contagious roots" (30).

Woodley.

JAMES COCKS.

#### TRAVELLING FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The following bill of expenses incurred in 1839 by Mr Henry Coppock and Mr J. Lawton, relieving officer, during a visit to Wales, in a case of appeal, where one John Davies was concerned, may be interesting:—

#### MR COPPOCK'S AND MR J. LAWTON'S EXPENSES TO WALES IN JOHN DAVIES'S CASE OF APPEAL.

| 1839.                                                             | £  | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| March 15. Toll-bars to Manchester .....                           | 0  | 0  | 9  |
| " Railway from Manchester to<br>Liverpool.....                    | 0  | 12 | 0  |
| " Packet and coach from Liverpool<br>to Chester .....             | 0  | 9  | 6  |
| " Expenses in Chester .....                                       | 0  | 9  | 0  |
| " Gig to Wales, two days .....                                    | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| " Toll-bars going .....                                           | 0  | 4  | 3  |
| " Examining register at Northop ...                               | 0  | 2  | 6  |
| " Horse at Northop .....                                          | 0  | 0  | 6  |
| March 16. Expenses at Mold for selves and<br>horse .....          | 0  | 16 | 6  |
| Examining register at Mold .....                                  | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| " Toll-bars returning through Buck-<br>ley.....                   | 0  | 4  | 6  |
| " Examining register 2nd time at<br>Northop .....                 | 0  | 2  | 6  |
| " Examining register at Howarden .....                            | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| " Feeding horse at Howarden .....                                 | 0  | 0  | 6  |
| " Subpoena to Joseph Heys, of<br>Buckley .....                    | 1  | 10 | 0  |
| " J. Lawton's expences at Chester,<br>including Hostler, &c. .... | 0  | 4  | 6  |
| " Coach fare from Chester to Hart-<br>ford .....                  | 0  | 5  | 0  |
| " Railway from Hartford to Man-<br>chester .....                  | 0  | 7  | 0  |
|                                                                   | £8 | 11 | 0  |
|                                                                   |    |    | S. |

## Replies.

#### OLD PLAYBILLS.

The following copy of an old playbill, although not

30. Life of Murcot, prefixed to his works.

one performed at Stockport, is of interest to the readers of Notes and Queries, inasmuch as some of those who took part in it were not only Cheshire men by birth, but they lived to occupy some of the highest offices in the county or the state. Before giving the "bill of the play" it is necessary to give a few particulars connected with its origination and production. For these facts I have the authority of the *Manchester Grammar School Registers*.

Mr Purnell, high master of the Manchester Grammar School from 1749 to 1764, in an endeavour to elevate the tone of the school, introduced as part of his regime, the study of classic plays. For this he had a little controversy with John Byrom on the subject of theatricals, who disapproving of the same, had written (anonymously) an epilogue strongly worded, in its censure. This he sent to Mr Purnell, and by way of reply that gentleman desired Byrom "not to send his sentiments in a disguised manner," adding further, "my notions of the stage are different to yours. I think it may be made use of for good ends and purposes, and to promote virtue and religion as well as the pulpit." The play here referred to was performed at the Manchester theatre, and was announced to be played by the Senior Scholars of the Manchester Grammar School, in the following handbill:—

AT THE  
THEATRE IN MANCHESTER,  
ON  
TUESDAY THE 9TH OF DECEMBER, 1759,  
WILL BE PERFORMED BY THE  
SCHOLARS  
OF THE  
FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
THE TRAGEDY OF  
CATO.

|                     |        |                 |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------|
| <i>Cato,</i>        | } by { | Arden, jun. (1) |
| <i>Lucius,</i>      |        | Heap. (2)       |
| <i>Semypronius,</i> |        | Adey. (3)       |
| <i>Juba,</i>        |        | Travis. (4)     |
| <i>Syphax,</i>      |        | Edwards. (5)    |
| <i>Portius,</i>     |        | Arden, sen. (6) |
| <i>Marcus,</i>      |        | Arnald. (7)     |
| <i>Decius,</i>      |        | Clough. (8)     |
| <i>Marcia,</i>      |        | G. Bower. (9)   |
| <i>Lucia,</i>       |        | F. Bower. (10)  |

The Doors will be open at four o'clock and the Play begin exactly at six.

No persons will be allowed to go behind the Scenes, or stand upon the Stage.

None to be admitted without Ticket, which are to be had at Messrs Newton's and Harrop's, or at the Door of the Theatre.

Manchester: Printed by J. Harrop, opposite the Exchange.

No serious injury, either to the studies or characters of the scholars who took part in the performance would appear to have been the result, as the following notice of their subsequent distinction proves:—

(1) R. P. Arden baron Alvanley. Lord chief justice of the Common Pleas.

- (2) Rev. James Heap M.A. Vice-principal of Brasenose college, Oxford.
- (3)
- (4) Rev. George Travis M.A. Archdeacon of Richmond.
- (5)? { Joseph Edwards M.A. Brasenose college, Oxford.  
or  
John Edwards B.A. Hertford college, Oxford.
- (6) John Arden esq. of Harden hall. Feoffee of the school and of Chetham's hospital; high sheriff of Cheshire 1790.
- (7) William Arnald D.D. Senior wrangler 1766, and sub-præceptor to the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV.
- (8)
- (9) George Buckley Bower M.A. Fellow of Brasenose college, Oxford, and archdeacon of Richmond.
- (10) Foster Bower esq. Recorder of Chester.  
Macclesfield. AN OLD BOY.

### STOCKPORT BOROUGH BOUNDS.

The Stockport Borough Bounds were last defined January 18 and 19, 1872, on which occasion there were present:—

|                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| The Mayor (Ald. John Walthew) | Mr Fielding             |
| Alderman Chapman              | „ Sidebotham            |
| Councillor Saunby             | „ Smethurst             |
| „ Oldfield                    | „ Jackson               |
| „ Bruckshaw                   | „ Harlow                |
| Mr Fallows                    | Councillor Parkes       |
| Captain Eskrigge              | „ Gilmore               |
| „ Reddish                     | and Members of Council— |
| Mr Banks                      | 35 in all.              |

A.

## Queries.

LOCAL ALTITUDE.—Will you kindly say in your next issue, what is the height of Wilmslow above the sea.  
FULSHAW CROSS.

CHESHIRE BIBLIOGRAPHY.—Can any of your readers supply the name of the writer of the following pamphlet:—

A Country Rector's Address to his Parishioners at the close of the twenty-fifth year of his residence amongst them, with reference to the Disturbed State of the Times. Second edition. London: Hatchard and Sons; and J. G. and F. Rivington; and J. Swinnerton, Macclesfield. Price sixpence. 8vo. pp. 22. 1830.

In a note on the back of the title page the author says, "Who the Rector or where the parish are matters of no importance to the public. If his address tends in the slightest degree to open the eyes of the deluded to the evil designs of the ill-disposed, the writer's object is answered." His object is to point out the folly of the rioters, who at the time went about destroying machinery and committing other outrages. He gives an interesting picture of the state of the working-classes in the early years of the century.  
Manchester. C. W. S.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1886.

## Notes.

SAMUEL ROBINSON.—PART III.  
(ante, 121, 137.)

A man who, after living a full and useful life, became a recluse more than a quarter of a century ago is necessarily unknown to a large number of the readers of these articles. To the rising generation he can only be a tradition and a name. From the few passages which have been extracted from his writings, his speeches, and his poems, certain persons, perceiving that these embody some of the ideas of a mind of no common order, will desire that the memory of so valuable a life shall be preserved in the form of a biography in some form worthy of the subject of it. Such a work is not here attempted; indeed, the writer has not

within his possession the requisite materials. Yet the present simple sketch will not be altogether without use if it serve as a remembrancer to those who were associated with Mr Robinson or knew him in former years; and if it portray, albeit in faint outline and with feeble colour, the personality of a cotton spinner actively engaged with his cards and spindles before the Victorian era, (such an one as the writer of fiction has rarely drawn,) it may be welcome to some of those employed in that important industry.

A bald narrative of the chief events in the career of Samuel Robinson was first given, and this was followed by extracts from his writings on social and economical questions; these were succeeded by examples of more purely literary productions, chiefly the fruits of solitude and widowhood. It now remains to endeavour to depict him as he

appeared to those about him during the later years of his prolonged life.

Occasionally we hear of a "many-sided man." Probably most men are many sided, but usually they exhibit sides of very unequal development. Like a peach, there may be one face, and one face alone, fully matured, excellent, and beautiful. Mr Robinson, however, was many-equal-sided; all the parts of his nature were nearly equally developed. The perusal of a few extracts from his writings upon social questions must have satisfied the reader that he was in advance of his time. His literary remains prove that he was an elegant scholar and accomplished linguist. If his life at Wilmslow be followed, we shall find abundant subject for study, and indeed for admiration, in his character, quite apart from the aspects already dwelt upon.

Mr Robinson was a man of singular modesty of demeanour, yet his maintenance of principle was unhesitating and uncompromising. When the spread of education was considered dangerous, and sanitary science was not even formulated; when the demands for the People's Charter were considered almost revolutionary, he did not adopt the tone of an apologist, nor hesitate in the enunciation of his advanced views. But it was his principles which he made prominent; he never obtruded himself. His writings usually appeared either without name, or they were subscribed with the simple initials "S. R." When he came to reside in the pure air of Fulshaw, a pioneer whose example so many of us have followed, he did not erect a fine villa, or occupy some imposing and extensive old hall, but he rented three cottages pleasantly situated and enjoying a south aspect. Two of these he threw together, and contrived a commodious, picturesque, low-roofed building, sweet and sunny, altogether without pretension, yet betraying in every feature a degree of refinement characteristic of its occupants. No carriage drive sweeps round to the door, but a simple wooden gate admits to the porch embowered in *pyrus japonica* and jasmine. We are not concerned with financial questions, but may remark that, although the means of Mr Robinson would have amply justified his indulgence in such luxury, he did not choose to drive a carriage. Availing himself of the name suggested by a tiny stream stained with the humus derived from the peat moss, and which flowed past his garden, he applied to his residence the singularly-modest name of Blackbrook Cottage.

It may be remembered that Mr Robinson mar-

ried one of the daughters of Mr John Kennedy, of Ardwick Hall, a man who never during his well-deserved course of prosperity could forget the home of his father, the Laird of Knocknalling, in Kirkcudbright. The love of that which is of Scottish origin showed itself even in the name he bestowed on his daughter—no other than that of the beautiful and unfortunate queen, Mary Stuart.

The interest of Mr Robinson in those who were in less affluent circumstances than himself did not stop at the operative class. Those who from improvidence or misfortune were dependent upon their parish for relief claimed his attention, and he considered the right administration of the poor law a subject of great importance, both in the interest of those who received and those who furnished the funds for this unfortunate class. Accordingly he allowed himself to be elected a guardian of the poor, attended with regularity the meetings of the board held seven miles distant across country, and discharged the duties in a manner which caused his colleagues after his death to record upon their minutes that

He brought to bear an amount of intelligence on poor law matters that was most valuable to the board, and he was held in the highest esteem by every member who sat at the same board with him.

By the courtesy of the clerk to the guardians the following interesting extracts from letters can be submitted:—

[Mr Robinson to Mr Cutter.]

Blackbrook-cottage, Wilmslow, April 6th, 1874.

Dear Sir,—You will have seen that another guardian for Fulshaw has been nominated, and, I presume, has been appointed in my place. . . . It has not been without much consideration and some reluctance that I have come to the determination not to allow myself to be nominated again, but I think that my entrance on my 81st year, and my completion of my uninterrupted service of 20 years at the board, will be readily accepted as a valid reason for wishing to retire from the office, which, at the distance of Knutsford from my house, has become of late occasionally inconvenient and trying. I might, indeed, have continued to go over from time to time under favourable circumstances; but I have held office on occasion when I could no longer perform my duties, and it does not suit my views of propriety to retain it without discharging them with proper regularity. I cannot, however, separate myself from the board on which I have served so long without desiring to take a kindly leave of its members. What many of them I have served too long not to have acquired for them sentiments of high respect and

friendly regard, and for each and all feelings of unaffected interest in their individual future happiness and welfare. My duties at the board have been to myself a matter of great interest, and usually very pleasant, and I beg leave to express to the members my warm personal thanks for the uniform kindness and respect with which they have received me. . . .

[Mr Outter to Mr Robinson.]

20th April, 1874.

I can assure you the intimation [your letter] contained was received with the deepest regret by every guardian present.

I was directed to express to you how much the whole board felt the separation with one of its oldest and most respected members, and how deeply the guardians sympathise with you in the reason given for our resignation.

I only express the feeling of one and all when I say you carry with you their warmest wishes for your future health and happiness, and their cordial esteem for you personally.

Speaking for myself, I concur most fully, not only in the feelings of the board, but I carry with me a most lasting recollection of the very great kindness and gentlemanly consideration that you have invariably shown to me as clerk. . . .

The infirmities incident to advanced years not only made it incumbent that Mr Robinson should withdraw from his duties at Knutsford, but from other engagements. He wrote to a friend :—

I don't like to be discouraging; in days bygone I was not wont to be so; but I cannot take part in such movements any longer as I used to do, not being now

the thing,

I was in my hot youth when

George the Third was king!

The assiduous discharge of the duties of guardian of the poor did nothing to abridge the charities of Mr Robinson. He was very generous, and, at the same time, discriminating; but any attempt to chronicle the assistance he rendered to the needy would be unjust to the memory of him who scarcely allowed his right hand to know what his left hand did in eleemosynary work. A solitary case may perhaps be pardoned. Nearly forty years ago a little boy fell into the gearing of a threshing-machine, and his foot was severely crushed. His mother, a widow, was rich in the possession of a numerous family of small children, but very poor in all other outward blessings. As a consequence of the neglect of the surgeon who refused to attend, the condition of the foot became serious, and the life of the boy was endan-

gered. Mr Robinson having heard of the case visited the cottage where the sufferer lay, and, together with two other gentlemen, caused the boy to be placed under the care of an experienced surgeon who lived some miles distant, with the result that the boy slowly recovered. Mr and Mrs Robinson did not content themselves with sending contributions from their kitchen and their purse, but the former came periodically to the cottage, and gave lessons to the boy in order to compensate him in some sort for the lameness to which he was doomed for life, by enabling him to earn a livelihood by other means than mere physical labour, for which he had become unfitted. One of the phalanges from the foot of a child, wrapped in paper, and carefully treasured in a little covered jar, recalls the sufferings of the boy, and a handful of nuts still preserved beside it shows what the little sufferer had played with, and what his kind instructor had carried from his own dessert. From that day the widow never wanted a friend in the person of her benefactor, and it may be added that he too gained a true though humble friend, one whom he treated with the consideration and courtesy which was his wont.

No one describing the manners and character of Mr Robinson should omit to mention his dignified courtesy, an example of the habits of the cultured class early in the century. It did not consist in a show of deference to those of superior years or station, but was the natural manifestation of the refined gentleman to all around him. It is not to be supposed that this was peculiar to Mr Robinson. One who well remembers him states that the brother-in-law of Mr Robinson, Sir Benjamin Heywood, did not allow a person to enter the room without rising, or at any rate partially rising, to receive him. Even when engaged in writing or other important business, and one of his sons came in upon him with some boyish want or question, he would make an apology for not attending to him at once, saying "Presently, my boy," or "I shall be ready to attend to you immediately."

Mr Robinson read his first paper before the Literary and Philosophical Society in 1819. He was elected a member in 1822. Whether in early life he frequently attended the meetings does not appear, but certainly he was rarely seen there after the death of Mrs Robinson. The writer only remembers meeting him at the rooms of the Society on one occasion—viz., in 1863, when a large attendance of members rarely seen there secured the election of Mr Leo Grindon.

About the year 1830, he formed one of a small

society who met periodically in Manchester, to read papers and conduct discussions. The chief members were Mr Robert Hyde Greg, Mr William Greg, Dr Henry, Rev. Edward Stanley, afterwards Bishop of Norwich, Mr John Cheetham, Mr Hampson, and Mr Robinson. In later years Mr Robinson established a similar society at Alderley. Mr J. Frederick Foster, Mr Symonds, Mr Samuel Thorp, Dr Satterthwaite, and a few other gentlemen met periodically at the Queen's Hotel, for literary purposes.

The British school at Dean Row was the object of his frequent visits and constant care, as evinced in the following resolution passed at the annual meeting of its subscribers :—

That this meeting desires to record its deep sense of the very great loss the school and its supporters have sustained by the death of the late Mr Samuel Robinson, one of its original promoters; he has ever since, down to the very time of his death, taken the principal and most active and unremitting interest in everything concerning its management and welfare, and by his invaluable advice and assistance done so much to secure its efficiency and reputation. The meeting wishes also to acknowledge his kindness and generosity in over and over again making good any deficiency occurring in the funds of the school, besides frequently carrying out, entirely at his own expense, various alterations in the premises, which have added much to the comfort and convenience both of the school and the master.

Mr Robinson held the opinion that advantage would arise if the masters of the different schools in the district could be occasionally brought together in a social capacity. They each conduct their own school having little opportunity of seeing or knowing what others are doing, or how others manage to surmount what may prove to be difficulties to themselves. Besides to confer a pleasure or bestow an honour upon those in whose important and honourable labours he greatly sympathised was congenial to him, and it became a custom annually to ask the masters to dinner, and no guests who were invited to his table were more generously entertained. These reunions under the guidance of the veteran teacher were occasions of pleasure and profit which will not be forgotten. The practice was continued to the last, indeed the last invitations were issued, and were reluctantly withdrawn when he had become too weak and ill to receive his guests any more.

Mr Robinson was not contented with promulgating his belief in the good to be attained by

the spread of knowledge. He showed forth his faith by his works. At Wilmslow he assembled a class of young men at the Methodist chapel, and on one evening each week he taught them. More than one person testifies to his remarkable power of teaching arithmetic, especially the different varieties of proportion, often perplexing to beginners. One individual who has achieved a good position states that he owes to Mr Robinson all that he knows of advanced arithmetic and of mathematics. He describes with enthusiasm the skill and patience which he brought to his self-imposed task nearly 40 years ago. Some of the younger lads, always ready for "a lark," and not duly valuing the advantages they enjoyed, would sometimes become so unruly as to test the patience of the teacher beyond endurance. He would then desist from teaching, look round, move his head and neck in a manner peculiar to himself, which his friends would remember, and then quietly address the rebels to this effect :—"I do not take this conduct as lying on your part. I have left my home and occupations, which were pleasant and profitable to myself, in order to teach you, and you not only will not learn, but you also disturb others who are wishing to be taught." The rebuke would be successful—at least for a time. This association was dignified with the title of the Mechanics' Institution. At the Wilmslow village library and reading room he took a warm interest and accepted the responsibilities of a trustee. He was anxious that it should become in its way what the flourishing institution in which he was so deeply interested was to Dukinfield. It should not be the vehicle of diffusing pernicious literature, nor the arena for the propagandism of any exclusive set of theological or political opinions. Mr Robinson did not stay to consider whether the occupation of teaching was an agreeable one; it was sufficient for him that he might do something to vindicate his principles, that he could be of some use to his neighbours, and could set an example which some might be disposed to follow. For many years he was a teacher in the Old Chapel Sunday School, and it is considered that it is to his influence and personal interest that the school became what it has continued to be ever since that time, one of the best managed Sunday schools in the district. Fortunately we have a verbal photograph of Mr Robinson in the Sunday school, forty-eight years ago, in a letter addressed to the late Mr Broadrick, by his brother and co-director of the school.

Just as the service commenced who should come to the school but Mr Robinson, whom I am always

pleased to see. He had been staying in the neighbourhood for the night in consequence of having been at a meeting at the village library. The preceding evening, after the service, we had some conversation together in the room, and Mr Robinson discoursed, in his sagacious and experienced manner, on mistakes pertaining to schools, pointing out how we ought to make the strongest efforts to retain our young men and women just at the moment when they leave the schools, thinking they had learnt all they will be able to learn, in fact just as they have got over the difficulties of gaining knowledge, and are on the point of enjoying the pleasures of it. How we ought to endeavour to make devotion more a part of the instruction of our schools, to present religion to our teachers and scholars in its highest and noblest forms, not as a mere matter of opinion in which we should differ from others around us, but as something worth thinking about, and something which, when we feel its reality, ought to incite us to deeds of love and charity. How we cannot do these things if we continue to crowd our school with children so that the attention of the teachers is taken up in keeping order, and the elder scholars are taken away from their classes to teach the little ones before they have learnt anything of the art of teaching; and just as the desire for learning has taken possession of their minds, to drive it out again by instilling into them a desire to become teachers. I may say that as he impressed these things on Mr Ladge I could not help thinking what a fine picture was formed of teacher and pupil; the scholar so young, so zealous, so full of good wishes and good hopes, and the master mind so deep and experienced, so fully bent on one subject—the moral and intellectual elevation of the people—that it gave me a thrill of delight, and I feel convinced that Mr Robinson must at some time have been a leader in an educational movement, a teacher of teachers, or else we may, when it is too late, repent of our having rejected his counsels; and we may say of him in sorrow—

He was a man, take him for all in all,

We shall not look upon his like again.

Mrs Robinson died in Italy nearly 30 years ago, and her ashes rest in the beautiful cemetery which overlooks the lake at Zurwiche. A sketch of the tomb was placed in her bedroom at Wilmslow, and as never removed during the lifetime of her husband. There was no issue from the marriage, and after the death of Mr Robinson it became necessary, after a decent interval, that Blackbrook Cottage could be given up. When the contents of the house had been removed, and the faithful servants had found other engagements, the sad change caused by the death of the master seemed absolutely completed. Although Mr Robinson has left relatives who cherish his memory, the circumstance of his leaving no immediate descendants may excuse

our looking a little more curiously into Blackbrook Cottage than otherwise would be justifiable. Mrs Robinson manifested a lively interest in the furnishing of her house, indeed in the planning of it (about the year 1846) as well; and it pleased her husband to accept without question the suggestions prompted by her excellent taste. The garden, in which she was supreme, was a source of continual delight to her. After her death it was the determination of her husband to maintain the place precisely as she had left it. If a room required to be papered the old pattern must, if possible be matched, or otherwise imitated as closely as possible. The same course was adopted with regard to carpets. The pictures and engravings upon the walls remained undisturbed; indeed, the only changes in the dwelling between 1858 and 1884 were due to the added years of the master and the frequent additions to his library. A few years ago the style of furnishing would have been pronounced old-fashioned, but the return to the designs which preceded the massive-mahogany period has, so to speak, modernised the objects in the rooms. The patterns on the carpets and on the wall papers were invariably small in outline and flat in character, well suited to the low-ceiled rooms. No change whatever was permitted in the garden. The lawn, of a texture like velvet, was surrounded by flower-beds, in which either the very plants and shrubs which its mistress had caused to be planted, remained, or if they had died or become unsightly they were carefully replaced by plants of identical character. Mr Robinson did not take much interest in his garden except for the sake of its mistress, but he informed the writer that he preferred to cultivate roses the fondness for which flowers he had derived from his Persian studies.

No gaslights were suffered to breathe out their poisonous vapours of carbon sulphide in the cosy rooms of Blackbrook Cottage, and no piece of modern furniture was permitted to enter and perpetrate an anachronism, disturbing the harmony of the whole.

Recalling the history of his life, it would scarcely have been expected that Mr Robinson was distinguished by mechanical ingenuity and manual dexterity. Yet such was the case, and the talent may have been inherited from his father, who displayed it to a marked extent, and among other congenial occupations of a like character assisted in designing Birtles Hall for his kinsman, Mr Hibbert. Samuel Robinson possessed a well-equipped tool chest, which, however, was rarely opened during recent years, but the curious cupboards and ingenious de-



voices in which Blackbrook Cottage abounds attest the ability of him who schemed them.

The qualities of neatness and order are not very uncommon, but rarely are they met with in so perfect a condition as in Mr Robinson. He had provided doormats and scrapers at his mill, as well as receptacles for cotton found on the floors. He also provided lavatories for his workpeople. At Falsshaw a couple of men were employed to keep a garden of only moderate size in perfect neatness, and his domestic servants, carefully trained by his justly valued housekeeper, carried the virtue of order to an almost distressing point. The writer, a pretty frequent visitor for twenty-five years, does not remember ever noticing a piece of furniture misplaced, the trace of dust upon any object, or even a book or two lying at random on the table. When the visitor was announced, he would usually find Mr Robinson seated in the low easy chair placed between the fireplace and the French window which reaches to the floor. Until positively disabled by the feebleness of age, the host would rise to greet his guest. A dwarf table at hand would sustain the book or magazine which he had been reading, and upon the dining table, writing materials would be arranged behind a large smooth black writing pad, at the side of which lay a locked quarto volume strongly bound in Russian leather. An admirable oil painting of his father hung upon the wall, and likenesses of his schoolmasters, Mr Wellbeloved and Mr Kenrick, of his friends Mr Samuel Greg, Mr R. H. Greg, and his nephew Mr Oliver Heywood were ranged round the room. Mr Robinson preferred to occupy the dining-room rather than that which contained his valuable library. In the latter the books had overflowed their natural limits and many had become deposited in other parts of the house. Even the tables in the library were covered with volumes stacked in the most compact and orderly form. Some book-cases were entirely filled with oriental works, some of which, written on vellum, illuminated and richly gilt, were of great rarity and considerable value. During his life Mr Robinson presented to the Owens College a valuable collection of Persian books, and after his death, the gift was supplemented by the oriental section of his library, which was properly regarded as a very important contribution to the collection at the college. Some persons collect books as others possess themselves of ancient or foreign coins, namely, to store them in a museum; others, however, obtain them as most persons try to accumu-

late the current coins of the realm, namely, for the purpose of using and profiting by them. The libraries of such bibliophiles serve as indices of their taste and culture, and to some extent of their opinions and morals. This was especially so in the case of Mr Robinson. In addition to the oriental works, he possessed a magnificent collection of the classics in the best editions. The standard works of France, Spain, Italy, and Germany were preserved in the original tongues. Our own poets from Chaucer to Browning were ranged in order; rare copies being rare editions of their writings. Works on criticism were not overlooked. Some years ago the writer held a conversation with Mr Robinson upon the Book of Job; it was followed by the loan from the library of Blackbrook Cottage of two independent translations. The collection of Bible and of biblical works was numerous. Modern French and German works, some of considerable value, were added to the collection as they appeared from the press. It would not be easy to enumerate what was present; it is not difficult to mention what was absent. The ephemeral and cheap literature of the day, was entirely wanting from the loaded shelves. Works of fiction were not excluded, but no portion of the flood of the time and sensational literature which invades most of our houses was ever permitted to flow into the library of Mr Robinson. The library was an image of the inner man, and what was ranged upon its shelves was also largely stored in the well regulated mind, and that which was excluded from the house had consumed no portion of his well spent life. The council of the Literary and Philosophical Society thus record in their memoirs their opinion of their oldest member:—

No one who had the honour of the friendly intercourse with Mr Robinson ever left him without being in some way better for the interview. His life-long familiarity with the classical literature of Greece and Rome, of Italy and Germany, and especially of England, and a habit of even fastidious composition, of ready and earnest address, secured to him a high eminence amongst the cultivated men of business who some years ago distinguished Manchester society.

Dr. R. Angus Smith wrote thus of him whilst he was with us:—

His knowledge is among such studies as few men here cultivate, being especially the Persian part from whom he has drawn many beautiful passages translating them in a graceful style, and we do not doubt with full appreciation, impressing deeply our friends with his skill, his refinement, and goodness.

Mr Robinson did not lack loving relatives and

devoted friends, always ready to serve him, but he preferred to dwell alone. Yet he was eminently a social man, and his married life had been one of singular felicity. Did he shrink from any companion for his solitude after that autumn day at Pallanza? Children with their rarely erring instinct were attracted to the old man; and his first care when visiting Dean Row School was to look for a dear little girl, whose sparkling eyes expressed her devotion when the reluctant words hung back. When the greater part of a year had passed after the grave had received its charge, a small bunch of flowers placed on its surface testified that a time, which to a child seemed an age, had not effaced her love. She had gathered in the lanes and fields such as she could claim as her very own offering; it consisted of foxglove, honeysuckle, ragwort, and the large marguerite.

Whilst unwaveringly true to his own type of Nonconformity—he had attended with his parents that place of worship where so many of the best and ablest of the men of Manchester worshipped, the Unitarian chapel in Cross-street—he was as far removed from Sectarianism or bigotry as the Zenith is from the Nadir. To his household he read the writings of large-hearted and pious men of other communions than his own. He greatly valued the sermons of F. Robertson, of Brighton, and some of the works of Dean Stanley. Few equalled him in intimate knowledge of the Bible, not many Churchmen excelled him in acquaintance with the book of common prayer.

When a boy he injured one foot with a spade, and he never recovered from the partial lameness caused by the accident. His gait was in consequence slow; and his slight figure somewhat bent with age, and leaning heavily upon a stick or umbrella, his face combining an expression of enquiry with something suggesting the endurance of physical pain was very familiar to the villagers, until a year or two before his death. The respectful *sobriquet* which prevented his being confounded with others called by the same surname, and which among the poorer people was generally employed—"Gentleman Robinson"—indicated the position he held in their estimation. Mr Robinson lived until he had nearly completed his ninety-first year, yet his appearance did not betoken such advanced age, and his head was clothed with abundant grey hair. Throughout life Mr Robinson struggled against the disadvantages incident to a feeble frame and delicate health. From these, coupled with a constitutional tendency to depression, which became aggravated by the death

of his wife, he suffered at times from melancholy. The visitor found him diligently employed reading or writing, but the dejection of his spirits and the traces of physical suffering were written in his face. After a few minutes' conversation the spirit of the man, itself unaffected by age, seemed to shake off the restraint of the well-nigh "worn-out fetter." The expression of his face changed as "the old man, eloquent," eager, and loquacious, drew freely from his stores of wisdom and knowledge. If the train of conversation warranted it, he would become vivacious, and not unfrequently the room would resound with his pleasant laughter. It was easy to converse with him, for he was quite ready to leave his guest little more to do than to listen. Besides, what he said was always worth listening to. Any important book recently published would be reviewed, or any interesting magazine article discussed, but gossip and polemics were not congenial. Occasionally he would find himself at a loss for a name, and appeared quite annoyed to find that he was beginning to suffer from an indication of age which many of those who counted not more than half his years could not escape. But he would be an unusual visitor who could hold three conversations with Mr Robinson without being led away to Dukinfield. His love for the people, the object of his benevolent labours, never waned. He was averse to speaking about his own ailments, but scrupulous in inquiring after those of his friends who were unwell or absent. His solicitude in the case of illness was remarkable. One of his neighbours suffered from a severe illness, and during several weeks he called daily to make inquiries, refusing to content himself with messages or messengers. He took a kindly interest in the welfare of young ladies of his acquaintance, both married and single, especially desiring to assist them in the choice of their reading and in the arrangement of systematic study, and was generous in placing valuable books at their disposal. Yet there was another aspect of his character which, however, was not frequently seen. A certain latent sternness and determination existed, which was called into activity upon suitable occasion. He could administer a rebuke with firmness and dignity, and where a wrong required to be redressed, or a crime to be denounced, he was fully equal to the task. There was also a constitutional hastiness of temper which required constant care to keep it under control.

The Owens College, an institution of which all in our district are justly proud, limited its sphere of usefulness to the members of the higher and middle classes, who were able to allow their sons to devote

the whole of their time to study. To the operative class its doors were practically closed. Mr Robinson was very desirous to establish evening classes, which should extend the area of usefulness very greatly, and although other influential men readily assisted in the good work, Mr Robinson was considered to have been the originator of the evening classes which have proved so remarkably successful.

That his friends would desire to possess some record of such a valuable life, and that it would not only be acceptable but profitable to a wider circle, could not be altogether overlooked by one so discriminating as Mr Robinson. The writer on two occasions ventured to express the hope that this reasonable desire would be gratified, and he went so far as to add that in lieu of a better arrangement he would gladly note down such circumstances as he might desire to include. Mr Robinson did not reply that he had made other arrangements, or that he deprecated the production of a memoir; he did not accept the offer, neither did he decline it. On both occasions he quietly changed the subject, or, in Parliamentary language, "moved the previous question." If silence gives consent, this attempt to sketch the life of Mr Robinson may be considered to be warranted by the subject of it, but none who knew him would doubt for a moment his desire that, if the story were told at all, it should be told truthfully, and a real and not ideal Samuel Robinson be presented.

Towards the close of his life the power of reading, from which he had derived so much pleasure and profit, became increasingly difficult on account of the gradual failure of his eyesight. He was compelled to abandon the attempt by candle-light, and during the short days of the last winter of his life the tedium was considerable, although relieved by the daily visits of one of his lady friends residing near, who read aloud to him. He also enjoyed the periodical visits of a gentleman, who spent a portion of each Sunday afternoon with him, and the pleasure derived from the visits was enhanced by their unvarying regularity.

Mr Robinson shrunk from notoriety. If he had a message to give to his countrymen it depended for acceptance upon its commending itself to their judgment. The message was proclaimed, the messenger modestly held back. He did not, however, conceal himself, for his published address and the familiar "S. R." would find him at any time. He did not care to sit on the bench of magistrates, or take a seat in Parliament. Wisdom and learning, such as Samuel Robinson had acquired, like

the diamond and the ruby, are slowly accreted in quiet and seclusion :—

Only the waters which in perfect stillness lie,  
Give back an undistorted image of the sky;  
God, many a spiritual house has reared, but never one  
Where lowliness was not laid first—the corner stone.

Culture and experience, attractive and beautiful as they appear, are after all only the dress which decks and graces the man whom indeed they partly conceal. Dr. Bacher, from Buda-Pesth, would estimate the Oriental scholar, and the Governors of Owens would correctly appreciate the educationalist. The Council of the New College, of which for years he was the president, knew his power to foster and direct such an institution. The Poor Law Guardians found out his faculty for administration, and the Town Library and the various schools his talent for organisation; but to make use of his own quotation, "There are greater things than these." Languages, culture, and acquirements of every kind are not the most valuable or the most enduring of the graces. Whether there be prophecies they shall fail, whether there be tongues they shall cease, whether there be knowledge it shall vanish away, but love never faileth. It was this quality which bound his work-people to him, and it is of this quality which the grey-headed and bowed figures you may sometimes meet with in Dukinfield will chiefly speak. Converse with his old neighbours, enter the dwellings which border the quiet lanes at Fulshaw—the lowlier the better—and it was the warm heart you will hear, even more than the generous hand, or the wise head.

Loved wilt thou be? then love by thee must first be given,

No purchase money else avails beneath the heaven.

Those who did not know the subject of this sketch might suppose that a man who had attained his advanced years must have displayed the signs of age and the feebleness which we associate with the close of a prolonged life. But such was not the case. True his frame was slight, and his bodily powers were infirm, and frequent if not constant suffering was his portion. But he refused to speak of himself, and scarcely concealed his impatience with those who expressed much sympathy. He managed his concerns with his wonted ability. He kept pace with the best literature of the day. He translated and composed elegant poetry. He was ever ready to consider cases of perplexity, and to offer wise counsel. Quotations from his favourite authors flowed readily from his lips. His interest

the school at Dean Row never flagged. Accompanied by a favourite niece and another lady he visited the school on one occasion when a surprise waited him. He was asked to unveil a painting, which he did, and displayed an excellent portrait, which had been painted from an enlarged photograph unknown to himself. If any of the readers of this article desire to make or renew their acquaintance with the good man they will do well to step into the schoolroom, and after they have inspected the picture turn into the neatly kept and picturesque graveyard surrounding the adjacent chapel, and in a spot selected by himself, over which the beams of the rising sun must pass ere they can mark the fleeting time on the sun-dial which surmounts the memorial obelisk, they will see where repose the remains of Samuel Robinson. The grave is covered by a substantial stone of polished granite, which bears the following inscription :—

Here resteth the body of  
SAMUEL ROBINSON,  
of Blackbrook Cottage, Wilmslow,  
formerly of Dukinfield,  
who departed this life December the 9th, 1884,  
aged 90 years.  
“Until the day dawn.”

It is not fitting that much shall be disclosed of the final scene. The struggle between life and death in which the latter is ensured the victory is an incident of our existence too frequently dwelt upon. Tell us the lessons of a man's life, and we will spare you the story of his death. On several previous occasions Mr Robinson had very closely approached the dark valley, and his peaceful acquiescence in his lot refigured his final illness. When the writer saw him he quietly said that he was “very ill, and he did not know what the result would be,” and then expressed concern for the health of an inmate of the house, and feared lest she might suffer indirectly as a consequence of his own illness. During the few days which preceded his departure he spoke little. Occasionally he would show his consciousness of all that was passing by inquiring if some visitor had been suitably entertained, or that any trifling expenditure incurred on his behalf had been repaid. Allusion has been made to the great sorrow of his life; we have no right to dissect his heart and seek to measure the intensity of his grief. Suffice it to say that from a heart tender and true like his it could not be otherwise than profound. Is it to be wondered at then, if, as earthly objects faded from his view, his spirit seemed to recognise her for whom his love remained unaffected by time and change, and

whom, he could not doubt, was waiting to receive and welcome him?

Who would desire to prolong the “days of labour and nights devoid of ease” of him who had “finished his course and kept the faith.” He had worn the white lily of a blameless life, and his own words, in the translation from Ferdusi, may be rightly applied to himself :—

The man who hath died doing good actions is not dead;

He is at rest, and hath consigned his soul to God.

Mr Herford concluded a biographical notice with the following eloquent and truthful passage :—

The time never came to Samuel Robinson to say or to feel “my interest is no longer with the present.” He travelled to the last along the stream of his own time, and was always a man of his age; concerned for every movement, political or social, at home and abroad, weighing every event, criticising every step, and setting down with rarely erring exactness the value of each, for and against, the true progress of mankind. Ordinary visitors might say he was a wonderful man for his age, but the few would prefer the judgment that he was a man wonderful at any age. No time of life is prodigal of those who combine so much sound erudition with so much genuine philanthropy. They are at no age frequent who can translate Persian and serve as poor-law guardians; but still more rare are they who carry into the tenth decade of life an openness of mind and heart such as his. To the last nothing human was strange to him. He was not great as the world counts greatness; in no wide degree publicly influential; but he was of the salt of the earth, who sweeten this world. He was one of those “quiet ones in the land,” without the knowledge of whose existing here and there the dread problem of life, “the burden of this unintelligible world,” would be harder to bear than it is for those who feel. When weary of the noise and glare of public life, when sickened by the “very little wisdom” with which mankind is governed, and the infinitely petty motives that influence politics; when terrified of the judicial blindness with which the Ruling and Possessing classes pass on in unconscious security, to catastrophies “which no man knoweth,” it has been rest and happiness to contemplate and commune with one who applied highest wisdom and justice to every thing, who, even in smallest matters, seemed to rest upon that ground of eternal truth whence only the welfare of the many and the safety of the Future can ever grow.

This fragmentary story of the life of one of the best men who first draw breath in Manchester during the last century must be brought to a close. If it nerve any to a braver struggle in the battle of

life, if the lesson of charity which it teaches be brought home, it may be said that "He being dead yet speaketh."

And truly he who here  
Hath run his bright career,  
And served men nobly and acceptance found,  
And borne to light and right his witness high,  
What could he better wish than then to die,  
And wait the issue sleeping underground?  
Why should he pray to range  
Down the long age of truth that ripens slow,  
And break his heart, with all the baffling change,  
And all the tedious toiling to and fro?

#### POSTSCRIPT.

The readers of the foregoing papers will be pleased to peruse the following extract from the last annual report of the Dukinfield library:—

The most important incident of the year in the history of the institution was the death of its founder, Samuel Robinson, Esquire, of Wilmalow. To the many gifts to the institution during his lifetime he has added a bequest of two hundred pounds. The committee placed on their minutes the following resolution:—

"That on the occasion of the death of S. Robinson, Esq., of Wilmalow, the committee of the Dukinfield Library and Astley Institute gratefully record the appreciation of the eminent service he has rendered to the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Dukinfield as the founder of the village library in 1838, as the active promoter of its enlargement in 1853, and as its scholarly patron during the long period of 51 years. His devoted services to the cause of general education whilst engaged in commerce, and his cultivation of literary pursuits to the end of his long and useful life, are worthy examples, difficult to imitate and too seldom striven after."

Through the ready subscriptions of friends who were acquainted with Mr Robinson's lifework as an educationalist in this district, a marble tablet with the following inscription has been placed in the reading-room:—

SAMUEL ROBINSON,  
Born 1794, Died 1884,

The founder and ever-ready helper of this institution, who, gifted with an active mind, a large heart, and a generous hand, combined with the pursuits of business the occupations of scholarship and the labours of philanthropy. He was the foremost promoter of education in this district, and spent a long life in furthering the welfare and happiness of his fellow creatures.  
Wilmalow.

ALFRED FRYER.

#### REVIEWS.

*The Gentlemen's Magazine Library: Archaeology, Part I. Edited by George Laurence Gurney, F.S.A. London: Elliot Stock. 1886. 8vo pp. xx. 336.*

For a lengthened period *The Gentlemen's Magazine* supplied well-nigh the sole channel through which isolated students of the past could communicate to the public the results of their researches in different departments of knowledge, which, in the present day, are copiously represented by distinct periodicals. It was a happy thought, therefore, which suggested a review of the large store of material thus collected, with a view to the selection, classification, and publication in a more accessible form. The task thus entered upon has been confided to capable hands, and the issue is proceeding most satisfactorily. The period covered is about 150 years, and ranges from 1731 to 1883, and all the articles of value which have appeared in the *Gentlemen's* between these dates are brought together, carefully classified under subjects, and arranged in volumes. Each volume is devoted to one subject, the articles being signed as in the original, and full reference to date and page being given, this arrangement, with the help of a most copious index, puts the invaluable stores of knowledge the work contains before the reader in the most accessible form for study or passing reference. Already four volumes have been published, on "Manners and Customs," "Dialect, Proverbs, and Word-Lore," "Popular Superstitions," and "Popular Legends and Traditions." The volume before us is the fifth of the series, and commences a new and important section of the series—viz., that on Archaeology, on which subject three volumes will be published. This first volume of the section on Archaeology is devoted to Geologic and Pre-historic Remains, Early Historic Remains, Sepulchral Remains, and Encampments and Earthworks. Under these heads will be found the records of the most important discoveries in Great Britain for the period of nearly 140 years, with the descriptions, comments, and explanations of our forefathers. As some of these contributions were made at a time when a re-awakened interest was being given to archaeological discoveries, and when special care was devoted to fresh excavations, the information gleaned has a special interest and value for the student of the present day. Scientific men have frequently lamented the want of support which the Government gives to the exploration and description of the archaeological remains of this country; but, as is evidenced in the pages of the volume before us, it would seem that they have to lament also that the officers of the Government have occasionally acted as the iconoclasts. "The Ordnance Survey Department," says the editor in his introduction, "by whom so much might have been accomplished with very little labour and expense."

have succeeded in driving their station-posts into the tumuli and barrows of the Cleveland district just as they recently placed their 'bench-marks' on the stones and crosses of Cornwall." The editor, Mr G. L. Gomme, F.S.A., has added to this volume, as to the former issues of the collection, useful notes where they are needed, among which may be specially named a comparison, in tabular form, of the cave remains and flint and bronze implements recorded in the volume with the great authorities on those subjects. He has also written a valuable introduction on the subject of the volume, and has compiled a specially full index, which places the details of the volume at the disposal of the reader. To those who do not possess *the Gentleman's Magazine*, or have no means of access to it, the library, in a condensed shape, forms an efficient substitute, while to those who are fortunate enough to own a set, the series furnishes what has so long been desired—viz., a complete index to those stores of hidden learning which have for so many years been inaccessible through want of the means of systematic reference.

*Eminent Naturalists.* By Thomas Greenwood, F.R.G.S.  
London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. 1886. 8vo pp 202.

There are few better methods of stimulating a zeal for scientific study than the one adopted by the author of this elegant volume. It is at all times a sad reflection that whilst the opportunities for study are so many the real students are so few. Compared with the difficulties which have beset many of our most eminent scientists in their early struggles in following their favourite pursuits, the youth of to-day have comparatively speaking a path of roses before them. What is wanted is some initial force which shall from the mass of mechanically educated humanity induce some atoms to think and act independently, and to follow those particular studies for which they have an aptitude. This force we are inclined to welcome in "*Eminent Naturalists*," for its contents must help to stir any latent energies in the mind of the young reader whose good fortune it is to meet with the book. The lives given are, Sir Charles Linnæus, Sir John Lubbock, Thomas Edward, Agassiz, Cuvier, Buffon, Sir Charles Lyell, and Sir Roderick Murchison. Though only a work of some 200 pages, the author has managed to give a reliable and interesting outline of the lives and pursuits of these celebrities, with some valuable details of the difficulties which surrounded their earlier efforts after knowledge. For the young just about to start on the march of life in reality these pages are teeming with valuable lessons, and they will be none the less acceptable to the pupil for being divested of anything which might be construed into sickly sentimentality. There is much in the book to stir the better feelings of the reader, and whether it develops in him a scientist or not, will certainly leave him a wiser—and if a wiser a better man.

*The King's Coin, or God's Fraction.* By the Rev. Thomas J. Bass, Curate of St. Stephen's, Liverpool.  
London: James Nisbet and Co. 1886. 8vo pp xv 138.

One cannot but admire the force and fervour which the author has, in the work before us, shown forth to the world its duty in the matter of giving to God a due share of their worldly wealth, as an acknowledgment of their indebtedness to the Giver of all good. The subject is one with which few of us are unfamiliar, for of whatever church or denomination we belong, those who minister have, very rightly we think, not omitted to urge on their hearers this important duty. It is not, however, every day we find a clergyman with fortitude and enthusiasm sufficient to present the subject in so complete and exhaustive a form as Mr Bass has in the handsome little volume before us. There is an array of proofs set forth, as to the duty of man to his Maker, which leaves no shadow of doubt as to the firmness of the bases of the writer's deductions. To many this will seem almost unnecessary, for in the minds of Christians who have had any religious education worthy the name, there can be no doubt as to the teaching of the practices in patriarchal and early Christian times. They gave, and gave most liberally, a practice which has degenerated in a most remarkable degree at the present day. What the author of "*The King's Coin*" tries to teach us is that it is the duty of the Christian to give *proportionately* of his income, and that that proportion shall be based on the old scriptural principle of giving a tenth part. It is, perhaps, well that this custom is well defined, or the portion to be given might vary considerably in different cases, as the following extract will show:—"I always believe a portion of my income belongs to God. I give that portion at the church service, half in the morning and half in the evening. I dare not do anything else," said an active little man professing high Christian attainments when spoken to on the subject. By the merest accident it became known that on each occasion he dropped a threepenny bit into the offertory, and as he held a Government office his income was known to be over two hundred pounds a year. How to give proportionately in all cases is very instructive reading, and the forcible and logical way the subject is handled will carry due weight with all those who may be fortunate enough to meet so valuable a guide, philosopher, and friend as the Rev. T. J. Bass. His name in the past has been associated with some important social and religious movements, and all that he enters upon he does with thoroughness. Whether, however, he will be able to leave present day Christianity with his ideas of the duties of man to his Maker in the matter of offerings remains to be seen. The book will prove a valuable aid to the clergy who find personal appeals inconvenient or disregarded. The still small voice which accompanies the teaching will surely be felt if once perused.

SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1886.

## Notes.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

## XI.

There appeared an error in my last paper. For Lawyer Etchells, of Marple, read "Lawyer Aaron Eccles," of Marple.

A few yards from Wharf-street Mill, Lancashire-hill (mentioned in my last paper), on the same side of the canal, stood Mr Michael Newton's silk mill in the year 1828. This mill had been erected the previous year for the purpose of dressing, carding, and spinning "waste" silk, that is, silk gathered from the silk worm. There is a very curious feature in the lives of these wild silk worms, for when they have finished their task, and concluded to cease spinning, they enshroud themselves in a silken bag called a cocoon, which becomes their own sepulture. Large bales of this waste silk, principally brought from China and India, were brought to Mr Newton's mill. It was then "dressed," that is, the threads were all placed in a line, and so made into small bundles by the silk dresser. These bundles were then put into small bags and sent to the silk boiler. He put about thirty of these bags into a large circular boiler at one time. A quantity of soap and indigo was also put into the receptacle, and kept boiling for about three hours. The bags of silk were then put under a press and all the moisture pressed out. The silk was then taken out of the bags and conveyed to the stove-room, and there dried. These bundles of silk then went to the cutter, whose duty it was to cut the threads of silk in equal lengths. These then went to the card-room, thence to the mule-spinner, and were spun in cops. The cops, after being packed in large skips, were then ready for the market.

Mr M. Newton was reported to be very wealthy, and when the silk market was overstocked he could afford to keep his mill running until his produce was wanted. I was once told by his bookkeeper that at one time Mr Newton had thirty thousand pounds worth of silk cops stored up in his warehouse.

About the year 1846 Mr Newton gave up spinning silk, and commenced to spin cotton, principally crape yarn. After his death the mill was worked by Mr Samuel Chadwick for a number of years.

This Chadwick family came from Derbyshire to Stockport about the year 1834, and took up their residence near where now stands the India Mill. The family consisted of the father and mother, four sons, namely, James, Nathaniel, Samuel, and Charles, and one or two daughters. On the first Sunday after their arrival in Stockport they were introduced at the Tiviot Dale Chapel and Sunday School, and they received a hearty welcome. Mr Chadwick was a boot and shoe maker, and James, the eldest son, learned the same trade; Nathaniel and Charles were put to throstle doffing, and Samuel got employment at Mr James Wilkinsons' mill, Heaton-lane, as a cop packer. James became a very useful teacher at the Tiviot Dale Sunday School, and in course of time he became acquainted with Miss Hannah Davenport, also a teacher in the Tiviot Dale Sunday School. He paid his address to her, was accepted, and they were married. This was the turning point in the history of the Chadwick family. Mr James Chadwick's wife was the daughter of Mr Samuel Davenport, who was the superintendent of the boys' room at the Tiviot Dale Sunday School, and he also fulfilled the duties of manager and bookkeeper at Mr Newton's silk mill. In the year 1852 Mr James Chadwick opened a boot and shoe shop in Bridge-street Brow, which proved a failure. He struggled hard for many years to maintain his family respectably and to save up something for a rainy day, but he did not succeed in his efforts. At last he concluded to leave England and try his luck in some foreign clime. He chose America for his future home, and this adventure also proved a failure. After remaining in America some time, and not succeeding according to his expectations, he resolved to come back to old England again. On his way home he was taken ill, and dying on board, received a sailor's funeral.

Mrs Hannah Chadwick, who had been employed at Mr Newton's silk mill some years previous to her marriage, at her husband's death went to Stockport there again as bookkeeper. About this time young Samuel Chadwick was engaged in a subordinate situation in the warehouse. Mr Newton, who was

a good discerner of character, saw in this youth something which pleased him, and he encouraged young Chadwick to persevere in his studies and aim at attaining knowledge. It came about that Mrs James Chadwick resigned her situation as bookkeeper, and Samuel Chadwick was installed in her place. He gradually grew in favour with Mr M. Newton, and in a short time that gentleman appointed him as his confidential clerk and manager.

In the early days of the Tiviot Dale Sunday School the scholars (if they chose) could attend Mr Thomas Rathbone Smith's Academy in Etchells-street, off St. Petergate, two nights a week—Monday and Saturday—and receive instruction in writing and arithmetic. This boon was granted to the scholars for about ten years. During that time myself and several of my companions embraced this golden opportunity, and thought it a great privilege. Many things else that are acquired too cheaply, although they may be of the greatest value, are considered by many as almost worthless, and not worth carrying away. It was so in this case with our learning. From about forty youths who availed themselves of this privilege at its commencement, in the year 1836, there were not a dozen who would be at the trouble to go and be taught for nothing. It was always a rule amongst the Wesleyans that their youth of both sexes should be well educated. They were amongst the first who introduced Sunday schools in Stockport. When it came to pass that the scholars refused to go to the teacher, arrangements were made by the officers of the Tiviot Dale Sunday School that the teacher should come to them. Mr T. R. Smith had a son William. This William A. Smith was a well-educated person, having assisted his father in his academy from his youth. He also possessed some rare qualities for a public teacher. I have seen him sorely tried by mischievous scholars, but I never remember seeing him strike a scholar. Mr William Smith attended the Tiviot Dale School one or more nights a week for many years to instruct all the scholars who chose to attend in writing and arithmetic, free of charge. Mr Smith had a certain stipend; I never knew what it was. After the death of Mr William Smith this boon to the scholars of the Tiviot Dale Sunday School was suspended for a while, until Mr Samuel Chadwick volunteered to take the place of the late Mr Smith, and do the duties regardless of a stipend. Mr Chadwick was a first-class penman, and he fulfilled the duties of writing master at the above

school for many years, and his services were highly appreciated both by his pupils and the officers of the school.

When Mr Newton died Mr Chadwick, under certain stipulations, was left in sole charge of this mill, the machinery, the house—once the residence of the Newton family—and everything belonging to the mill, with Miss Newton as his patroness and friend. For some years everything seemed to prosper with him, and he appeared to have any amount of money at his command. He was very fond of music; and in a certain sense was himself a musician, having been a member of the Tiviot Dale Chapel choir a number of years, but he never fulfilled any prominent post in an orchestra. Besides being a lover of music, he was also an enthusiastic patron of the art. His great desire seemed to be to possess the best musical instruments attainable, the cost being of no consequence. He took a trip to Paris, and there purchased a grand piano, the cost of which I never ascertained. I accompanied him to Manchester to purchase a flute. We went to Mr Higham's, a Stockportonian, and purchased one for six pounds. He soon got tired of this, and purchased another, for which he gave sixteen pounds. He also bought a number of violins at a great cost. He had some of the cleverest musicians in the town, both vocal and instrumental, visiting his residence once a week, giving chamber concerts, after which the musicians were well regaled. One Tuesday, after Mr Chadwick had done his business on the 'Change, he repaired to the Queen's Hotel, and there got introduced to Mr Sims Reeves, the English tenor. They soon became good friends, and Mr Reeves was invited to visit Mr Chadwick at his residence. The invitation was understood by Mr Chadwick to be granted, and great preparations were made for this intended visit, but the great tenor did not turn up.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

#### A CHESHIRE BOON DAY.

Mr James Coombes, farmer, of Cross Acres and Brownlow Green, having acquired the tenancy of Baxter's farm at Gatley, his friends a short time ago gave him what is known in Cheshire as a "boon day," and it was a novel sight to see some 53 pairs of horses—the majority grey in colour—harnessed to as many ploughs, turning over the land. Such a number is rarely seen at one time in any part of the county, and it must indeed be very satisfactory to the sturdy farmer to have this practical evidence of the high esteem of his neighbours and friends.—*Stockport Advertiser*.



## STOCKPORT PARISH REGISTERS.

VI.

OCTOBER, 1588.]

MARRIED.

- 19.—John Gibbon and Ales Wyche.  
19.—John Didsburie and Anne Bennetson.  
25.—Willm Bennetson and Grace Higham.  
27.—Willm Cheetham and Mawd Thorniley.  
27.—Raffe Ridge and Ellen Marsland.

BURIED.

- 2.—Willm Ashton of Werneth.  
5.—The wyfe of Thomas Sydebothom.  
5.—An infant of James Dickinson's of Stock.  
14.—Edward Nerthbury.  
19.—The wyfe of John Hall of the Streethouse-lane.  
19.—Raffe Henshaw of Bredburie.

NOVEMBER 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 28.—Willm sonne of John Pickford of Northburie.

MARRIED.

- 10.—John Collier and Margret Richardson.  
23.—Richard Hall and Katherine Cheetham.  
23.—George Bramhall and Margery Robinson.

BURIED.

- 17.—Willm Mellor of Pointon.  
18.—The wyfe of Thomas Dickenson of Stock.  
19.—Willm Thorniley of Stock-greave.  
28.—John sonne of Robte Lees of Stock.  
30.—The wyfe of Raffe Johnson of Stock.

DECEMBER 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 6.—Willm sonne of Leonard Ashton of Werneth.  
6.—Willm sonne of Willm Mellor.  
9.—John sonne of James Hobson of Levensam.  
9.—Mary daughter of Raffe Henshaw of Bredbury.

MARRIED.

- 9.—Alexander Elcock and Katherine Massye.

BURIED.

- 1.—John sonne of Robte ffallowes of Stock.  
2.—Willm Marsland of Northbury.  
2.—John sonne of Willm Walmesley of Stock.  
5.—Uxor Ashton de Stock.  
6.—The wyfe of Edward Marsland of Bosson.  
11.—Alexander sonne of Roger Browne of Stock.  
27.—Richard Chonall of Barweek-hill.

JANUARY, 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 18.—Samuell sonne of Thomas Syddall of Bramhall.  
22.—Edward sonne of Alexander Boswell of Stock.  
26.—Willm sonne of Thomas Torkinton of Houghton.  
28.—John sonne of George Syddall of the Slade.  
31.—Ellen daughter of Robte Hudson of the parish of Manchester.

MARRIED.

- 29.—John Low and Anne Browne.

BURIED.

- 16.—Johan daughter of John Shepley of Hyde.  
18.—Thomas Deane of Bramhall.  
26.—The wife of Robte Sheather, of Stock.  
26.—Johan Prestich of Redich.

FEBRUARY, 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 5.—Willm sonne of Willm Daniell of Stock.  
5.—Em daughter of Thomas Collier, of Bredbury.  
7.—John sonne of Humffrey Dauenport of Stock.  
10.—Edward sonne of Anthony Brook of Stock.  
13.—Em daughter of Gervie Pylkinton of Denby & Yorkshire.  
17.—Elizabeth daughter of John Hobson of Levensam.

MARRIED.

- 10.—Robte Goodyer and Elizabeth Jackson.

BURIED.

- 5.—Anne Hearon of Marple.  
5.—Willm Leadbeater of Bramhall.  
10.—The wyfe of Willm Seale of Bramhall.  
14.—Margery Royle of Stock.  
15.—Uxor Lingard de Bredbury.  
20.—Nicholas son of John Bennetson of Werneth.

MARCH, 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 7.—Ales daughter of Thomas Syddall of Heston.  
11.—Smyth of Stockport More Syde had a chylde baptised named John.

BURIED.

- 11.—The wyfe of Willm Sydebothom buried at M<sup>an</sup>tram.  
12.—The wyfe of Edmund Henshall, of Bramhall.  
16.—Johan Henshaw spinster.  
18.—Willm Bennetson of Attarakow-bridg.

APRILL, 1588.

BAPTISED.

- 6.—Ellen daughter of Thomas Hulme of Heston.  
22.—Margret daughter of Miles Herod.  
25.—Elizabeth daughter of John Hibbert of Marple.  
25.—Margery daughter of John Pycroft of Stock.  
27.—John sonne of Willm Leadbeater of Bramhall.  
27.—Raffe sonne of Willm Thorniley of Stock-greave.  
27.—Willm sonne of James Bredbury of Torkinton.  
27.—Elizabeth daughter of Raffe Bayly of Manchester.

MARRIED.

- 20.—John Cowp and Ellen Marsland.  
21.—Robte Rogers and Elizabeth Bell.  
21.—Willm Thorniley and Anne Gee.  
22.—James Hardy and Ales Massie.  
28.—Godfrey Hearon and Ales Elcock.  
28.—Raffe Swyndells and Anne Hanson.

BURIED.

- 6.—Reinolds Ashton of Gee Cross.

MAY, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 6.—Ellen daughter of Thomas Hulme, of Heaton Norris.  
10.—Willm sonne of Alex. Thorniley of Bredbury

JUNE, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 11.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Greene of Rediche.  
12.—Raffe sonne of Robte Swyndells of Bredbury.  
12.—Jane daughter of Alex. Newton, of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 11.—Willm Holte and Ellen Byrch.

BURIED.

- 12.—Willm Harryson of Werneth.

JULY, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 3.—Ellis sonne of Richard Johnson of Redish.  
0.—A chyld of Raffe Hamton's of Henbury.  
5.—Dorothy daughter of Alex. Mosse of Stock.  
5.—Dorothy daughter of John Fletcher of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 7.—Willm Bewker and Margret Ridgway.  
9.—Willm Hanley and Ellen Higham.

AUGUST, 1589.

The: Rydgeway of Stock. had a chyld baptised named Tho.

SEPTEMBER, 1589.

[Although this month and year are entered in the Register, there is not a single entry recorded under it. It is immediately followed by]

OCTOBER, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 7.—Robte sonne of Tho Cheethams of Woodley.  
5.—Dorothy daughter of John Cheetham of Stock.  
5.—Willm Pemberton of Redich had a sonne baptised named Arthur.  
1.—Robte sonne of Robte Ridgeway of Offerton.

NOUEMBER, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 7.—Anne daughter of Raffe Allen of Stock.  
3.—GEORGE THE SONNE OF EDWARD TORKINTON OF TORKINTON GENT WAS BAPTISED THE 16TH.  
7.—Edward sonne of Willm Thorniley of Bredbury.

[The Register at this opening is not a little confusing. First comes a month entirely omitted, then events are transposed, a baptism on

October 7th being entered before two on the 5th of the same month. The same thing occurs above under November, and, to increase the confusion, four entries under November are sandwiched between two separate lots for December, thus causing the months to be twice repeated as here given.]

DECEMBER, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 25.—Alex. sonne of George Newton of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 15.—[blank] Dodge and Jane Hulme.  
25.—John Bradley and Katherine Bredbury.

BURIED.

- 16.—The wydow Higgenbothom of Marple.  
16.—Catherine Deane of Northbury.  
16.—The wyfe of Willm Leadbeater of Bramhall.  
26.—The wyfe of Thomas Collyer of the Streethouse-lane.

NOUEMBER, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 22.—Anne daughter of John Sydebothom of Henshaw Houses.  
22.—Peter sonne of Peter Sydebothom of Romiley.  
22.—Margrett daughter of Raffe Cowp of Bramhall.  
25.—John sonne of Willm Wilkinson of Bramhall

DECEMBER, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 27.—Anne daughter of Ambrose Robynson of Stock.  
16.—Ales daughter of John Byrch of Manchester.  
16.—Elizabeth daughter of James Chorlton of Stock.  
16.—George sonne of Jane Ridgeway of the Bagbower.  
18.—Robte sonne of Robte Rogers of Stock.  
19.—Richard the sonne of Raffe Nicholson of the poche of Manchester.  
19.—Thomas Thorniley of Bramhall had a chyld baptised.

JANUARY, 1589.

BAPTISED.

- 3.—HUMPHREY THE SONNE OF WILLIAM DAUENPORT OF BRAMHALL, ESQUIRE WAS BAPTISED THE 3TH.  
6.—Willm Churton of Bredbury had a chyld baptised.  
25.—JOHN THE SONNE OF RI. GERARD PARSON OF STOCKPORT WAS BAPTISED THE 25TH.

MARRIED.

- 10.—Raffe Leigh and Ales Rowcroft.

BURIED.

- 10.—The wyfe of John Dickinson of Redich.  
19.—Raffe Nicholson of Heaton Norris.  
25.—John Gee of Hyde greene.

## FEBRUARY, 1589.

## BAPTIZED.

- 1.—Anne daughter of Henry Collier of Bredbury.
- 2.—Jane daughter of Thomas Booth of Beacom.
- 10.—John sonne of John Jackson of Brynnington.
- 10.—Jane daughter of John Low of Stock.
- 16.—Alex. Cellier of the Yew tree in bredbury had a chyld baptised.

## MARRIED.

- 16.—John Boland and Izabell Grantham.
- 24.—Willm Squyer and Izabell Daniell.
- 26.—Thomas Rydgeway and Jane Garnet.

## BURIED.

- 6.—The wyfe of Humfrey Stretch of Stock.
- 9.—Elizabeth Jackson of Bredbury.
- 18.—The wyfe of George Whittakers of Manchester.
- 24.—The wyfe of Christopher Bordman of Stock.
- 29.—Reinold Nicholson of Redish.

## MARCH, 1589.

## BAPTIZED.

- 1.—Peter sonne of Raffe Didsbury of Werneth.
- 8.—Thomas sonne of Robte Smythe of Levensam.
- 15.—Anne daughter of Thomas Swyndells of Romiley.
- 19.—Robte Baguley had a chyld baptised.
- 20.—John sonne of Robte Cooke of Northbury.
- 31.—Thomas Burdsell of the Underbank had a chyld baptised the laste daye.

## MARRIED.

- 1.—Richard Brewer and [blank] Priestley.
- 2.—John Davenport and Jane Low.

## BURIED.

- 14.—Robte Arderne of Brinnington.
- 20.—Thomas Syddall of Bramhall had a chyld buried.
- 26.—George Gee of Gescroase.

## APRILL, 1590.

## BAPTIZED.

- 3.—Willm sonne of Willm Handley of Bredbury.
- 10.—Robte Janny of Stock had a chyld baptised the 10th day named Alexander.
- 11.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Bowker of Bramhall.
- 17.—Anne daughter of John Rodes, of Bramhall.

## BURIED.

- 1.—John the sonne of M. Gerard parson of Stockport was buried the first day.
- 4.—George sonne of Henry Collyer of Bredbury.
- 19.—Bryan Shaw of Hyda.
- 29.—The wyfe of Willm Beacom of Werneth.

## JUNE, 1590.

## BAPTIZED.

- 7.—Ursula daughter of George Elcock of Heston.
- 19.—Margret daughter of John Booth of Redish.
- 29.—Ellen daughter of Thomas Ward of Hyda.

- 24.—Edward sonne of James Bredbury of Torkham.
- 24.—Susanna daughter of Henry Ashton of Hyda.
- 26.—Thomas sonne of [blank] Leighe of Brinnington.
- 26.—Ellen daughter of Robte Taylor of Bredbury.
- 26.—Ellen daughter of George Brookshaw of Bredbury.
- 29.—Anne daughter of John Lowe of Offerton.

## MARRIED.

- 7.—Robte Tomkinson and Margery Bredbury.

## BURIED.

- 6.—John Steele of Northbury.
- 24.—Wyndow Jackson of Brinnington.
- 26.—The wyfe of John Pickson of Northbury the younger.
- 29.—A chyld of Edward Booths of Beacom Wood.

## JULY, 1590.

## BURIED.

- 15.—The wyfe of John Preston of Hengrave.
- 16.—Katherine daughter of Willm Beacom of Werneth.
- 25.—Cycely Burges of Stockport.
- 30.—John Leighe of Woodley.

## AUGUST, 1590.

## BAPTIZED.

- 9.—George sonne of George Cheetham of Stock.
- 14.—Margret daughter of Willm Arderne.
- 14.—Johan dau of Robte fallowes of Stock.
- 23.—Richard sonne of John Robynson of Stock.
- 30.—Elizabeth daughter of John Ashton of Hyda.

## BURIED.

- 2.—The wyfe of James Robynson of Denton.
- 3.—Elizabeth Ryle of Woodley.
- 3.—Lawrence Bancroft of Bramhall.
- 5.—The wyfe of Robte Smyth of the Streethouse-hill.
- 5.—Hughes Janny servant to the Mr Edward Warr of Poynto Esquier was buried.
- 6.—WILLIAM DUCKENFIELD OF PORTWOODS BRIDGE WAS BURIED THE 6TH.
- 12.—The wyfe of John Holme of Redisha.
- 15.—The wyfe of Raffe Smith of Bramhall.
- 16.—The daughter of Thomas Collyer of Barwick-hill.
- 19.—Uxor. Henshaw de Bramhall.
- 19.—Thomas sonne of Willm Oldham of Lancaster bridge.
- 20.—The wyfe of Thomas Collyer of Barwick-hill.
- 20.—The wyfe Edward Wynnington of Adeswood.
- 23.—Margret daughter of Willm Arderne.
- 23.—A chyld of Robte Shawes of Stock-moreside.
- 24.—John Whitelegg of Gasley.
- 25.—Thomas Nicholson of Redish.
- 30.—Robte Baguley of Northbury.
- 31.—Thomas Cheetham of Crookiley.

## SEPTEMBER, 1590.

## BAPTIZED.

- 20.—Willm sonne of Robte Sharock of Lancashire.

—Ellen Hall daughter of Willm Hall baptized at Pointon.

—Ales daughter of Willm Nicholson of the Wood-hall.

—John Shepley of Hyde had a chyld baptized.

MARRIED.

—John firodsham and Bettris Hyde.

BURIED.

—The wyfe of Roger Daniell of the Wyndlehurst in Marple.

—Elyn Brook of Heaton Norris.

—The wyfe of Ralphe Wylson of Haughton.

—Ottywell Ridge of Marple.

—Lawrence Bowbothom of Bramhall.

—Uxor Deane de Bramhall.

—Richard Bennetson of Romiley.

—A chyld of Willm Hanley's of Buttress-green.

—Willm Hall of Bramhall.

—Ralphe Obestham of Crookiley.

—A chyld of John Halls of Bramhall.

OCTOBER, 1590.

BAPTISED.

—Prudentia daughter of Thomas Jackson of Stock.

—Agnes daughter of James Dickson of Stock.

—Raffe Johnson of Stock had a chyld baptized.

—Ales daughter of George Bowerhouse.

—Dorothy daughter of John Henshaw of Bramhall.

—Ellen daughter of Humfrey Davenport of Stock

MARRIED.

—Peter Hay and Anne Bowland.

—George Adzehead and Ales Andrew.

BURIED.

—A chyld of Mr Duddells of Lostock.

—Richard Sydebothom of Romiley.

—Isabell Durwell.

—A chyld of Richard Hibberts of Werneth.

—Robte Brentnall of Bramhall.

NOUEMBER, 1590.

MARRIED.

—Thomas Stockpote and Mawd Lucas.

BURIED.

—Uxor Walker de Stock.

—The wyfe of Ralf Knowles of Bredbury.

—The wyfe of Edward Heywood of Stock.

—The wyfe of Edward Thorniley of the Churchgate in Stock wydow was buried.

—Margret daughter of Edward Glydill a stranger.

—John Shepley of Hyde.

—Anne daughter of Willm Thorniley of Denton.

—Ellen Rodes of Hyde.

—The wyfe of James Low of Marple.

—Johan daughter of Henry Shaw of Hyde.

—Isabell daughter of Ralphe Johnson of Stock.

—The wyfe of Thomas Dooley, of Northbury.

DECEMBER, 1590.

BAPTISED.

20.—Ales daughter of Richard Hoult of Wythington.

26.—John sonne of John Cleaton of Werneth.

27.—Roger sonne of Robte Goodyer of Echulla.

MARRIED.

4.—Robte Rydgeway and Anne Henshaw.

7.—Raffe Low and Anne Pixtone.

BURIED.

4.—Jehn sonne of Mr Duddells of Poynton.

5.—The wyfe of Robte Turner of Bredbury.

5.—Robte sonne of Henry Browne of Manchester.

JANUARY, 1590.

BAPTISED.

3.—Margret daughter of Robte Barret.

15.—James sonne of Robte Bordman of the Underbank.

17.—Willm and Ellen the sonne and daughter of Raffe Taylor of Stockpote.

21.—CATHERINETHE DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM DAVENPORT OF BRAMHALL ESQUIER WAS BAPTISED.

22.—Anthony sonne of Anthony Mottershead, of Bramhall.

31.—John sonne of Henry Huxley of Levensam.

31.—Elizab daughter of George bramhall of Stock.

31.—Anne daughter of Willm Dawd of Marple.

31.—Alex. sonne of Edward Moose of Stock.

MARRIED.

25.—Richard Robynson and Anne Oldham.

BURIED.

3.—Susanna daughter of Henry Ashton of Hyde.

7.—John Burges of Stock.

8.—Grace daughter of Richard Ward of London.

8.—Robte Lees of Denton.

11.—The wyfe of Willm Redford.

13.—The wyfe of Adam Hall of Bramhall.

13.—Nicholas Bancroft of Stock.

14.—The wyfe of Thomas Wharby of Torkinton.

15.—A sonne of James Geffersons of Bramhall.

20.—Raphe Robynson of Brynington.

20.—Roger sonne of Robte Goodier of Echulla.

23.—Johan daughter of John Bradley of Hyde.

25.—The wyfe of Raphe Hobson of Levensam.

27.—Raiginold Brookshaw of Bredbury.

27.—A chyld of Elizabeth fallowes of Bramhall.

27.—Elizabeth Daniell of Stock.

31.—A chyld of Hughe Hall of Bramhall.

FEBRUARY 1590.

BAPTISED.

14.—Johan and Isabell daughters of Roger Rocroft of Bramhall.

14.—Catherine daughter of Willm Thorniley of Stock.

14.—Elizabeth daughter of Olivv Goddard of Marple.

21.—Nicholas sonne of Edward Brooke of Stock.

24.—Richard sonne of George Chorlton of Heaton.

24.—George sonne of John Byrron of Stock.

- 23.—James sonne of James Willmson of Stock.  
 28.—Ellen daughter of Raffe Allen of Stock.  
 28.—Katherine daughter of John Robinson of the Underbank.

## MARRIED.

- 1.—Willm Winterbottom and Anne Bennetson.  
 14.—Thomas Collier and Katherine Thorniley.  
 14.—Thomas Hall and Anne Leigh.

## BURIED.

- 1.—A chyld of Raphe Tomlynsons of Hyde.  
 4.—Richard Haughton of Haughton.  
 5.—Thomas Stanfield of Werneth.  
 7.—Edward Ridgway of Stock.  
 7.—Willm sonne of Willm Nicholson of Stock.  
 8.—Hector Rylonde of Haughton.  
 15.—Isabell daughter of Roger Rocroft of Bramhall.  
 16.—The wyf of Nicholas Wynne of Stock.  
 18.—Jane daughter of Roger Rocroft of Bramhall.  
 25.—The wyfe of Roger Rocroft of Bramhall.  
 25.—Richard Whyte of Stock.  
 27.—Margret daughter of Alex. Hulme of the Bridge, ende.

## MARCH, 1590.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Johan daughter of Godfrey Herod of Stock.  
 14.—MARY THE DAUGHTER OF RAPHE ARDERNE OF BREDBURY GENT. WAS BAPTIZED THE 14TH.  
 14.—Edward sonne of Robte Hudson of Heaton.  
 21.—Andrew sonne of Thomas Hulme of Heaton.  
 21.—Anne daughter of Robte Bridge of Stock.

## BURIED.

- 2.—Ales Choonall of Bredbury.  
 3.—The wyfe of Christopher Barlow of Haughton.  
 5.—The wyfe of John Cowp of Bramhall.  
 9.—Elizabeth daughter of George Bramhall, of Stock.  
 12.—The wyfe of John Choriton of Echulla.  
 15.—Edward sonne of Robte Hudson of Heaton.  
 15.—Jane daughter of John Low of Stock.  
 17.—William Ashton of the Bowlikar.

## MARCH, 1591.

## BURIED.

- 25.—The wyfe of John Leigh of Woodley.  
 25.—Willm Ridge of Marple.  
 28.—Robte Hibbert of Werneth.

## APRILL, 1591.

## BAPTISED.

- 18.—Willm sonne of Robte Bancroft of Marple.  
 25.—Mary daughter of John Leigh of Rediche.  
 25.—Ales daughter of Edward Thorniley of Romiley.

## MARRIED.

- 12.—Richard Deane and Elizabeth Holte.  
 19.—Wilm Walkele and Elisabeth Cheestham

## BURIED.

- 3.—John Bradley of Stock.  
 6.—Ellen daughter of Raffe Allen of Stock.  
 8.—The daughter of Richard Bridgehouse of Stock.  
 19.—A chyld of Richard Brewars of Bramhall.  
 19.—A chyld of John Leighs of Woodley.  
 29.—The wyfe of Hugh Bowerhouse of Heaton.  
 20.—A daughter of Willm Cheadles of Edgeley.  
 22.—John sonne of Robte Daniell of Stock.  
 21.—The wyfe of Willm Leadbeater of Bramhall.  
 21.—The wyfe of Raphe Mosse.  
 24.—Christopher Barlow of Denton.  
 24.—Ellen daughter of Raffe Cowp of Bramhall.  
 24.—Robte sonne of Robte Backster of Bramhall.  
 26.—Uryane Johnson of Stock.  
 28.—A chyld of Thomas Cheesthams of Woodley.  
 30.—Willm sonne of Hughe Ridgways of Stock.

## MAY, 1591.

## BAPTISED.

- 20.—Ales daughter of Georg Barlow of Denton.

## MARRIED.

- 16.—Lawrence [blank] and Jane Daniell.  
 17.—John floders and Ales Marsland.

## BURIED.

- 4.—The wyfe of Richard Hulme of Bolton.  
 5.—francis Newton of Levensham.  
 15.—Ursula daughter of John Shuttleworth.  
 16.—Margery Davy of Northbury.  
 18.—John Milner of Levensham.  
 19.—Margret daughter of Alex. Hunt, of the Churchgate.  
 20.—John Thorniley, of the parish of Glossop.  
 24.—Jane a daughter of Robte Pownall.  
 25.—A chyld unbaptised of Rydyngs the miller of Pointon.  
 29.—The wyfe of John Masse of the Churchgate.

## JUNE, 1591.

## BAPTISED.

- 11.—Willm son of Regineld Wilson.  
 20.—Ellen daughter of John Didsburye.

## MARRIED.

- 7.—Thomas Cheestham and Elizabeth Nicholson.  
 13.—John Cowp and Anne Stanfield.

## BURIED.

- 6.—A chyld of Katherine Garnetts.  
 7.—The wyfe of Robte Thorniley of Haughton.  
 11.—ELIZABETH THE DAUGHTER OF WILLM DAVENPORT OF HENBURY GENT WAS BURIED THE 11TH.  
 11.—The wyfe of Thomas Greaves, of Heaton.  
 27.—John Sydebothom of Barweek-hill.  
 30.—Margrett daughter of Alexander Collier.

## JULY, 1591.

## BAPTISED.

- 9.—felix daughter of Willm Squire of Stock.

- 1.—Ellen daughter of Robte Rogers of Stock.
- 3.—John sonne of Thomas Smithe of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 1.—Thomas Brooke and Katherine Wood.

BURIED.

- 1.—The wyfe of Thomas Goddard of Marple.
- 3.—Mary daughter of John Lees of Redich.

AUGUST, 1591.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Mary daughter of Robte Brook of Redich.
- 1.—ELIZABETH DAUGHTER OF EDWARDE TORKINTON OF TORKINTON GENT WAS BAPTIZED THE 8TH.
- 1.—Humffrey sonne of Randall Ridgeway, of Bramhall.
- 1.—ROBTE THE SONNE OF EDWARD VAWDREY GENT WAS BAPTIZED THE 8TH.
- 1.—Elizabeth daughter of Raphe Wyche of Marple.
- 1.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Nicholson, of Adswood.

MARRIED.

- 1.—George Downes and Elizabeth Leighe.

BURIED.

- 1.—Lawrence Bradley of Rediche.
- 1.—John Smith of Norbury.
- 1.—Willm sonne of Willm Walkden of Haughton.
- 1.—The wyfe of Geffrey Didsbury of Stock.
- 1.—Ottiwel Higgenbotham of Marple.
- 1.—John Byron of Stock.
- 1.—Roger Herod of Stock.
- 1.—John Jackson of Stock.
- 1.—The wyfe of Thomas Chatham of Bredbury.
- 1.—Willm son of Willm Wynterbotham of Bredbury.
- 1.—The wyfe of Thomas Barnes of Denton.
- 1.—The wyfe of Alex. Arderne of Stock.
- 1.—Katherine Leigh of Adswood.
- 1.—Willm Torkinton of Torkinton.
- 1.—The wyfe of John Ageshead of Bramhall.
- 1.—The wyfe of John Collier of Bredbury.
- 1.—The wyfe of Raphe Rowbotham of Marple.
- 1.—Alex. Danyell of the Hilgate.

SEPTEMBER, 1591.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Raffe sonne of Willm Nicholson of Stock.
- 1.—Jane daughter of Raphe Lowe of Denton.
- 1.—ELIZABETH THE DAUGHTER OF RICHARD GERARD PARSON OF STOCK WAS BAPTIZED THE 19TH.
- 1.—Jane daughter of frances Daniell of Henshaw houses.
- 1.—Robte sonne of Thomas Cheetham of Bradbury.

MARRIED.

- 1.—Henry Hyde and Jane Moores.
- 1.—Robte Pollet and Ales Streete.

BURIED.

- 1.—Adam Hall of Bramhall.
- 2.—Reiginolde Johnson of Echulla.

- 3.—James Bredbury of Torkinton.
- 3.—Cycey Higgenbotham.
- 6.—The wyfe of Richard Byrche of Bramhall.
- 11.—JOHN TORKINTON OF TORKINTON GENT WAS BURIED THE 11TH.
- 13.—John Didsbury.
- 16.—The wyfe of John Dickson of Stock.
- 17.—The wyfe of Hugh Daniell of Bramhall.
- 18.—A chyld of Nicholas Elcocks of Stock.
- 19.—The wyfe of John Arderne of Werneth.
- 20.—The wyfe of Lawrence Bradley of Rediche.
- 22.—Thomas Dickinson of Stock.
- 23.—Alex. Roson of Stock.
- 27.—Alex. sonne of John Booth of Rediche.
- 28.—Cycey Weywo *als* Milner.
- 29.—Bartholomew Horton of Stock.
- 29.—George Downes of Echulla.

OCTOBER, 1591.

BAPTISED.

- 24.—Richard Robinson of Denton had a chyld baptised.
- 30.—Ales daughter of William Barnes of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 3.—James Thorpe and Anne Lees.
- 13.—Thomas Turner and Anne Whyteley.
- 23.—Henry Walker and Ales Thorniley.
- 24.—John Warren and Margret Houghe.
- 26.—John Bradley and Margret Dodge.

BURIED.

- 3.—The wyfe of John Ashton of Hyde.
- 4.—Robte Ryland of Haughton.
- 7.—George Rowbotham of Offerton.
- 7.—Byrro a chyld of Izabell Bowker.
- 18.—A chyld of John Oldehams of Stock Bellman.
- 25.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Nicholas of Rediche.
- 26.—FRANCIS ELCOCK OF STOCKPORT GENT WAS BURIED THE 26TH.
- 30.—Raffe sonne of Willm Hudson of Brinnington.

NOVEMBER, 1591.

BAPTISED.

- 8.—Anne daughter of Christopher Low of Marple.
- 19.—Margret daughter of Oliver Dodge of Heaton Norris.
- 24.—ffortune daughter of Reiginolde Harrison.

MARRIED.

- 7.—John Wynne and Anne Crosley.

BURIED.

- 1.—Robte Daniell of the Hilgate.
- 3.—An infant of John Dickinson of Rediche.
- 8.—Ales Jefferson of Bramhall.
- 14.—Lustye Downes the beggar was buried.
- 17.—The wyfe of Robte Dokenfield of Chadkerk.
- 22.—JOHN THE SONNE OF JOHN WARREN OF POINTON GENT WAS BURIED THE 23TH.

## DECEMBER, 1591.

## BAPTISED.

- 5.—Elizabeth daughter of Ambrose Robinson.
- 10.—Elizabeth daughter of William Ashton of Werneth.
- 12.—Thomas Hobson of Levensam had a chyld baptised.
- 17.—Willm sonne of John Henshaw of Bramhall.
- 21.—Raffe sonne of Raffe Allen of Stock.
- 23.—Robte sonne of Thomas Taylor of Levensam.

## MARRIED.

- 5.—Willm Smith and Ales Shawa.
- 10.—James Hynde and Anne Shepley.
- 21.—George Jodrell and Elizabeth Shirte.

## BURIED.

- 3.—John Watson of Empshaw Yate.
- 2.—An oulde man that dyed at the Woodhall was buried.
- 3.—The wyfe of Raphe Eicock of Stock.
- 7.—Thomas Thomlinson of Offerton.
- 14.—Roger Allen of Northbury.
- 16.—A sonne of George Barlowes of Denton.
- 18.—A daughter of Thomas Bullecks of Marple.
- 18.—Otes Hall of Redich.
- 19.—Nicholas Hall of Bosson.
- 22.—Reginold Milner of Stock.
- 23.—A chyld of Robte Shawes of the Moorsyde

## JANUARY, 1591.

## BAPTISED.

- 6.—Richard sonne of John Browne of Bramhall.
- 16.—Robte sonne of John Thorniley of the Bagbower.
- 16.—John sonne of Willm Blomiley of Levensam.
- 23.—Mary daughter of Thomas Shaw of Hyde.
- 24.—ffrauncs a chyld of Edward Taylors of Northbury was baptizid.
- 28.—Thomas Syddall of Redich had a chyld baptizid.
- 28.—Katherine daughter of Tho. Bordman of Stock.

## MARRIED.

- 27.—Edward Garnet and Anne Bridg.

## BURIED.

- 6.—A chyld of John Rods of Bramhall.
- 6.—A chyld of Thomas Swyndells of Bomiley.
- 12.—Thomas Rodes of Lostock.
- 24.—The wyfe of Willm Stanley of Marple.
- 25.—The sonne of Robte Ridgeway of Offerton.

## FEBRUARY, 1591.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Alexander sonne of George Rediche of Stock.
- 2.—Dorothy daughter of Robte Thorniley of Denton.
- 4.—Anne daughter of George Syddall of Manchester.
- 13.—Willm sonne of Raphe Cowper of Bramhall.
- 13.—Ales daughter of James Chariton of Stockport.
- 13.—Marye daughter of John Pycroft of Stockport.
- 18.—Mary daughter of Alex. Boswell of Stock.
- 27.—Robte sonne of Ranulphe Hulme of Offerton.
- 27.—Robte sonne of James Barret of Cheadle.

## MARRIED.

- 6.—John Leigh and Ellen Taylor.

## BURIED.

- 2.—Bartholomew Bordsman of Rediche.
- 3.—The daughter of Thomas Leighe of Brynnington.
- 3.—The Widow Cleaton of Stockpt-greave.
- 7.—Thomas Smith of Nongresva.
- 10.—The sister of Henry Collier of Bradbury.
- 12.—John Bradley of Adswood.
- 14.—The wyfe of Robte Baguley late of Northbury wydow.
- 15.—Mary daughter of John Pycroft of Stock.
- 15.—RANULPH THE SONNE OF EDWARD WARREN OF POINTON, ESQUIRE WAS BURIED THE 15TH.
- 17.—Arthur Dooley of Northbury.
- 17.—John Bennetson of Marple.
- 17.—Robte sonne of James Drinkwater of Stock.
- 18.—Robte sonne of Roger Goodyear of the Hyegren in Echulla.
- 20.—Richard Robinson of Denton had a chyld buried.
- 24.—The wyfe of Nicholas Wynnington of Stock.
- 29.—John Dickenson of Levensam.

## MARCH, 1591.

## BAPTISED.

- 3.—John sonne of John Baguley of Levensam.
- 5.—Ales daughter of ffrauncs Warren of Stock.
- 5.—Ales daughter of Humffrey Davenport of Stock.
- 5.—Em daughter of Nicholas Greene of Stock.
- 5.—KATHERINE THE DAUGHTER OF EDWARD WARREN OF POINTON ESQUIRE WAS BAPTISED THE 5TH.
- 19.—John sonne of Miles Herod of Stock.
- 19.—Anne daughter of Willm Daniell of Stock.
- 23.—John sonne of Edmund Baguley of Levensam.

## BURIED.

- 2.—Margret daughter of Robte Barret of Echulla.
- 7.—Ranulphe Hulme of Offerton had a chyld buried the 7th named Robte.
- 7.—The wyfe of Riginold Milner of Stock.
- 8.—Richard Pownall of Bramhall.
- 9.—Robte Hulme of Marple.
- 15.—A chyld of Raffe Nicholasons of Heaton.
- 16.—A chyld of Raphe Lawtons.
- 17.—Elizabeth Mosse of Heaton Norris.
- 18.—Willm Ashton of Werneth had a chyld buried.

## MARCH, 1592.

## BAPTISED.

- 25.—Elizabeth daughter of Edward Wynnington of Adswood.
- 26.—Margrett daughter of Robte Hall of Levensam.
- 31.—Alex. sonne of Olyvr Thomlinson of the Bowerhouse.
- 31.—Ellen daughter of John Lowe of Stock.

## BURIED.

- 25.—Olyver Rocroft of Bramhall.
- 25.—Richard Smith of Stock.

- 7.—Robte Marshall had his wyf buried.
- 7.—Edward Wynnigton of Adswood.
- 3.—An infant of George Hall of Stock was buried.

APRIL, 1592.

BAPTISED.

- 9.—ANNE THE DAUGHTER OF WILLM DAVENPORT OF BRAMBALL ESQUIER WAS BAPTISED THE 9TH.
- 9.—Raffe sonne of John Low, of Offerton.
- 4.—John sonne of Raphe Johnson of Stock.
- 8.—Anne daughter of John Cowper of Bramhall.

MARRIED.

- 3.—John Arderne and Margret Hibbert.

BURIED.

- 8.—Raffe Hobson, of Levensam.
- 5.—Ales Steele of Northbury.
- 8.—Margrett daughter of John Ryle of Echulla.
- 4.—Anne daughter of Henry Collier of Bradbury.
- 4.—Margret Lathom of Stockp.
- 6.—Robte Wharneby of Torkinton.
- 7.—Peter Sydebotham of Marple.
- 7.—Ales daughter of fraunces Warren of Stock.
- 10.—William Dande of Marple.

MAY, 1592.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—Thomas sonne of Alex Collier of Bradbury.
- 12.—Ales daughter of John Bradley of Rediche.
- 16.—Margret daughter of Ottywell Higginbotham of Marple.
- 19.—Robte sonne of Willm Pollerd of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 7.—John Collier and Patronell Cleaton.
- 12.—Robte Dickenson and Ellen Byrche.

BURIED.

- 1.—Jane daughter of Willm Wilkinson of Bramhall.
- 2.—Ottywell Hadfield of Hyde.
- 10.—Bowes Arderne of Stock.
- 13.—Ales Charleton.
- 13.—Thomas Collier.
- 14.—Ellen daughter of John Henshaw of Bramhall.
- 22.—Raffe sonne of Thomas Collier of Bredbury-greene.
- 26.—Willm Richardson of Stock.
- 28.—Edward Burges of Northbury.

JUNE, 1592.

BAPTISED.

- 24.—Joan daughter of Thomas Collier of Bradbury.
- 25.—Margret daughter of Henry Hyde of Denton.

MARRIED.

- 8.—Richard Daniell and Joan Herod.
- 11.—Thomas Ellor and Anne Walker.
- 18.—Robte Rydings and Katherine Johnson.
- 28.—Willm Mellor and Joan Cleaton.

BURIED.

- 1.—Thomas sonne of Reginolde Nicholson of Rediche.
- 2.—Elizabeth daughter of Edward Wynnigton of Adswode.
- 11.—Thomas Booth of Beacom-wood had a chyld buried.
- 15.—Jeynekyn Hudson of Stock.
- 18.—Amie daughter of Willm Daniell of Stock.
- 19.—Humffrey Robynson of Stock als Cook.
- 21.—WILLM DOKENFIELD OF DOKENFIELD ESQUIER WAS BURIED 21TH.

JULY, 1592.

BAPTISED.

- 2.—Margery daughter of Alex. Moese of Stock.
- 9.—John Robynson of the Underbank in Stock had a sonne baptizd named Alex.
- 16.—Robte sonne of Robte Goodyer of Echulla.
- 23.—Robte sonne of Henry Wyld of Hyde.
- 23.—Margery daughter of John Boland of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 7.—Gylbert Newcome and fraunces Milnes.
- 10.—Raffe Barlow and Katherine Byrtenshaw.
- 10.—Thomas Shelmrden and Anne Willmson.
- 12.—Nicholas Bordeman and Elizabeth Ouldeham.

BURIED.

- 1.—ROBERT THE SONNE OF EDWARD VAWDRY OF THE RIDDINGS GENT WAS BURYED THE 1TH.
- 4.—Robte sonne of Willm Pollerd of Stock.
- 8.—Roger Hardman of Stock.
- 10.—The wyfe of James Douglas of Bredbury.
- 11.—Ellen daughter of Raphe Taylor of Stock.
- 12.—The wyfe of Edward Ryle senior.
- 17.—Anthony sonne of Anthony Mottershead of Bramhall.
- 20.—Guy Seddon of Romiley.
- 26.—The wyfe of Raphe Dykynson of Stock.

AUGUST, 1592.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—Elizabeth daughter of Robte Sanderson, of Bradbury.
- 6.—Robte sonne of Ellis Auldcroft of Redich.
- 6.—Joseph sonne of Thomas Sykes curate of Stock.
- 18.—Margret daughter of Anthony Hulme of Stock.
- 18.—John sonne of John Shepley of Hyde.
- 20.—George sonne of Edward Ryle of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 7.—Alexander Hunte and Ellen Nabbs.
- 13.—George Swyndells and Ales Swyndells.
- 13.—Robte Cashe and Joan Mylnes.

BURIED.

- 2.—One Cleaton of Romiley.
- 3.—Anne daughter of John Cowp of Northbury.
- 6.—Anne Casson of Stock.
- 10.—Richard sonne of John Rebynson of Stock.
- 22.—Thomas Johnson of Bradbury.
- 30.—Willm Oldham of Heaton Didsbury.

E. W. BUTKLEY.



SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1886.

## Notes.

## THE GEOLOGY OF STOCKPORT AND DISTRICT.

In preparing these notes on the geology of the district I have found the points calling for attention so numerous that it is necessary in dealing with them even superficially to limit the area to be described; but a study of the rocks in the immediate locality is full of interest, although in attempting to identify them we receive very little assistance from fossil organic remains. A poverty of fossils is characteristic of most of the Red Sandstones, and the Trias or New Red Sandstone so largely developed in this part of the kingdom is no exception to the rule, but attractive features of another kind are exhibited in the great variety of rocks exposed at the surface, the differences of structure plainly indicating that they were deposited at times separated by long intervals and under widely different conditions, their position furnishing evidence of the great changes to which they have been subjected during the ages that have elapsed since their formation. For instance, in crossing a few miles of country we pass in rapid succession over strata composed of coal, shale, grit, and sandstone lying at various angles of inclination, some nearly vertical, from which it may be deduced that beds once continuous and more or less horizontal have been thrown into folds, the upper portions of which have been removed by denudation, and it is estimated that the great fold of which the Carboniferous Limestone of the Peak is now the summit has, in this manner, lost hundreds of feet of height by the removal of Grits and Coal Measure rocks.

## RED ROCK FAULT.

Most of you will no doubt have observed the great contrast between the appearance of the country on two sides of a line running from Denton towards Macclesfield, and that on the west lies the great plain of Cheshire with a comparatively level surface, while on the east the ground rises more or less abruptly to the hills of the Pennine Chain. Along this line, at its nearest point to Stockport, crossing the Bradbury-road near Yew Tree Farm, runs an extensive displacement of the strata known as the Red Rock Fault, a feature of much importance in the geology of the district, and this will be recognised when you learn that on the east side of the Fault we have, at the surface, rocks of Carboniferous age, including the Coal Measures, and on the side nearer Stockport these beds lie at an unknown depth under the Permian Sandstones. As the Carboniferous rocks are the oldest in the district I will commence with one of the lower members of that system, occurring within a short distance of Stockport, and describe them as they appear

along a line of section commencing at Greave Fold and ending at Heaton Mersey. This section is enlarged from one published by the Geological Survey, and is most suitable for the purpose, the rocks, as a rule, taking the order in which they appear on the Table of Formations I have prepared. I will then describe the rocks and the localities in which they are exposed.

## SUCCESSION OF ROCKS.

The oldest rock appearing at the surface within the prescribed limit is the highest bed of the Millstone Grit series. It is followed by a band of shale, which is considered to be the basement bed of the Lower Coal Measures, and by alternating beds of flagstones and shales belonging to that group until the outcrop of the coal seam known as the Lower Woodley Mine is reached. This bed is the first of the Middle Coal Measures, which contain about 10 seams of coal, with intervening beds of shale, sandstone, and claystone. The Lower Coal Measures terminate abruptly against the Red Rock Fault, and from this point the Permian Sandstones extend without interruption to Tiviot Dale, where they disappear under the Pebble Beds of the Trias, but again come to the surface at the Fault near Hope Hill, accompanied by the Upper Permian Marls. Pebble Beds occupy the remainder of the ground from Tiviot Dale to Underbank Farm, near Bankhall, where the Upper Mottled Sandstone of the Trias crops out. Glacial sands and clays cover the greater part of the beds described, and are in places capped by terraces of river gravel and patches of peat bog.

It will be seen by reference to this list that the rocks succeed each other in the order indicated, but that important systems such as the Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Tertiary, are entirely unrepresented.

## MISSING FORMATIONS.

The probable cause of this enormous gap in the geological record is to be found in long continued denudation, by which some or all of these deposits have been removed from a large tract of country extending from the west coast to the centre of England.

It can hardly be supposed that this region stood for ages above the seas in which such depths of rock were deposited, many of them having their origin in hot and clear water at some distance from land. At present no trace of the systems mentioned have been found in this locality.

## MILLSTONE GRIT.

The Rough Rock, or as it is locally called "the Wood Rock," the highest grit of the Millstone Grit series, crops out near Guy Wood, Romiley, and the characteristic features of these rocks are easily recognised. The lower beds of the Millstone Grit, including shales and occasional seams of coal, appear in succession

tween Werneth Lowe and Kinderscout, and I am informed that a thin seam known as the "Feather Edge Coal" has been worked near Guy Wood. The Millstone Grit is poor in fossils, and occupies the centre of the Carboniferous system. From an examination of the quartz grains and pebbles of which it is largely composed, the grit appears to own its origin to the destruction of granite, probably derived from hills on the north or west, quartz in angular or partially rounded fragments forming the grits, and the felspar, decomposed by rain, containing carbonic acid, supplying material for the shales. In the grains of quartz, derived from granite, the commonest type of which is made up of quartz, potash, felspar, and mica, are numerous minute cavities containing liquid, and it has been computed that millions are contained in a cubic inch.

#### LOWER COAL MEASURES.

In the Guy Wood Quarry we find a band of shale, the basement of the Lower Coal Measures, and their relation to the Millstone Grit is clearly made out. There appears to be no unconformity between the two formations at this point, but the grit is disturbed by a lateral fault, and the appearance called "slickensides" has been produced by the movement of the faces of rock against each other.

The overlying Flagstones dip to the west at an angle of 15 degrees, and have been extensively quarried along the escarpment above Heald Wood, where the sections are most instructive, and show fine examples of false bedding of a kind supposed to indicate a beach deposit. Large round concretions and good examples of ripple markings are found in the beds, and fossil plants, including good specimens of Calamite, are plentiful. The remaining members of the Lower Coal Measures are opened out by the railway cuttings between Romiley and Woodley, but no coal appears to have been found, although one or more seams, probably Gannister, have been worked at Gee Cross, as well as between Otterspool and Compstall.

#### MIDDLE COAL MEASURES.

The Middle Coal Measures occupy a narrow tract between Bredbury and the Red Rock Fault, and contain sandstone, shale, clay, ironstone, and coal. Several seams have been proved at the Bredbury Colliery. The strike, or line of outcrop, of these beds runs nearly north and south, so we find them crossing the river near Goyt Hall, the Red Rock Fault at this point being almost parallel to the outcrop. Near the Fault the strata are nearly vertical, and when the water is low the different beds may be examined and good specimens of fossil ferns obtained. For some distance towards Otterspool the river runs over Middle Coal Measure rocks, the harder grits forming broken reefs, the fine grained ironstone having been polished by the sand carried down by the river, and the banks still bear traces of workings from which coal

has been taken. The Coal Measures terminate at the Fault, and are not again seen at the surface in the country lying to the west. The Carboniferous System is formed of two different types of rock—the one marine, and the other evidently deposited in shallow water under conditions to which it is now difficult to find any parallel. The limestones contain abundant remains of marine life of a type found only in clear waters. The grits and coarse sandstones were formed close to the shores and were composed of larger fragments derived from granite, the smaller grains with mica and the decomposed felspar floating out to greater distances to form the finer sandstones and shales.

#### ORIGIN OF COAL.

The problem of the origin of coal is still unsolved, but it is probable that the ordinary kinds having a small percentage of earthy matter, are formed of the remains of vegetation which flourished under conditions similar to those now seen in the Mangrove swamps on the coast of Florida. Large trees have been found with roots penetrating the clay forming the floor of the coal seam. Referring to the thicker seams, it has been argued that the growth of vegetation could not have continued in purely vegetable matter, and as the coal seams are said to be compressed to about one-ninth of their original thickness a good idea can be formed of the great depth of the mass of vegetation that has resulted, to take an exceptional case, in a seam 100 feet thick.

Cannel coal has comparatively a large admixture of sand and clay, and no roots are found in the under clay. Of the various theories that have been advanced to account for its origin the most probable appears to be that the carbonaceous matter has been derived from peat bogs. It will interest botanists to learn that the wood of Carboniferous plants has been bored by insects, and that a fungus allied to that now found on the potato has been found on the leaves.

#### PERMIAN.

On the western side of the Red Rock Fault, and only a few yards from the outcrop of the last of the Carboniferous beds, a bright sandstone rock of soft texture rises from the river in strong contrast with the hard purple grits of the older formation. This is the first of a series of beds described in the Memoir of the Geological Survey as Permian, but the correctness of this description has been challenged, and they may belong to either the Carboniferous or Triassic rocks. If the former, the downthrow of the fault may not be great; but if they are proved to form part of the more recent formation, the Coal Measures have been carried down to a great depth. Until the true place of these rocks be determined the depth at which the coal seams lie below Stockport cannot even be approximated. This question of depth is not likely to cause much anxiety at present, but if the opinion of most of the authorities is to be relied upon, the

question of reaching new supplies at a moderate depth will become one of great interest, after a few generations shall have continued the wasteful use of that valuable stock of fuel upon which our leading position amongst the nations so largely depends. The Permian sandstones are easily distinguished by their bright colour and occasional bands or mottlings of green or white. They are very friable, and contain no pebbles, but small seams of well-rounded grains of larger size than usual occur frequently through the whole range of the beds. These rounded grains suggest the idea of great antiquity, and of having frequently formed part of a sandstone rock. As the grains would lose about two-fifths of their relative weight in water, it is argued that under such conditions the impact would not be sufficient to produce the perfect shape exhibited by these specimens from the Permian rock even after taking into account a limited amount of drifting on flat shores. The sands blown to and fro on a large desert would be more perfectly rounded, and in connection with this fact a theory has been advanced, showing the probability that in Permian times a large area was occupied by sandy wastes. The Permian Sandstones dip to the west, and are exposed at several points on the river between Goyt Hall and Vernon Park, where they may be seen on both banks. The sections in a large quarry on the south side of Newbridge-lane show the characteristic mottled appearance, which suggested the term "Poikilitic" (variegated), as applied to both Permian and Triassic deposits. Near Tiviot Dale they dip under the Pebble Bed, but are again brought up by a large fault on the west of the railway viaduct, and form the surface rock as far as Hope Hill, where very fine grained sand was quarried some years ago. This is now filled up, and other sections in the locality, too, have disappeared, but in an excavation near Bury-street I have lately found both the fine moulding sand and the large rounded grains before described.

The Permian at Hope Hill is very narrow, and is succeeded by a band of Marl, which is marked on the map as crossing the river to the west of King-street bridge, but the rock is so much obscured by drift beds that we must trust to the description given by the officers of the Survey, who had favourable opportunities for correct observation during the construction of the Altrincham Railway. The stone embankment on the river opposite Orrell's mill points to the conclusion that the bank is formed of some less reliable material than the sandstone seen at each end. The marl, which is the highest of the Permian beds near Stockport, is again brought to the surface at Heaton Mersey by a fault, having a throw of 1000 feet. The marls and sandstones near the bleachworks have been proved to be over 500 feet thick. A small outlier of Permian Sandstone and Marl appears at Torkington, the former containing fragments of Coal Measure rocks.

#### TRIAS.

A considerable area in this part of the country is occupied by Triassic (or New Red Sandstone) rocks, the Pebble Beds lying at the base. These beds underlie the greater part of Stockport, and good sections may be seen on both banks of the river, at Old-road, Lancashire-hill, and in a cutting on the road at Brinkway Bank. At the back of Brinkway-road, near the tall chimney of Orrell's mill, is an escarpment of the same rock, probably an extension of that on the north side of Heaton-lane, at the base of which the Mersey is doubtless flowed before cutting the lower channel in which it now runs. This ancient river bed has been traced for a long distance towards the west coast. The pebbles so abundant in these beds consist mainly of quartz, with fragments of grit and hornstone, and the lower portions occasionally have the appearance of a coarse breccia.

At Heaton Mersey a newer bed, consisting of Mottled Sandstone, overlies the Pebble Bed.

In Cheshire the thickness of the Pebble Beds and Mottled Sandstone is about 1300 feet, and the rocks forming the system contain valuable deposits of salt, the lower bed at Northwich being over 100 feet thick. They are also well known as the principal water-bearing strata. At Alderley the Keuper sands of the Upper Trias have been worked for copper since prehistoric times. The Triassic rocks were deposited along a short line extending towards the west, and much of the material was drifted from that direction. The Pease Chain probably formed part of this coast line.

#### GLACIAL.

The Glacial Clays and sands varying in thickness from one to 300 feet, and covering the older rock over the greater part of the district, were formed during a period of intense cold, which commenced at the close of the Pliocene age, when the land was much higher above the sea and extended further in the direction of the Atlantic than at present. An Arctic climate, with milder intervals, prevailed until nearly the whole of Britain was covered by a sheet of ice similar to that now spread over Greenland, and the land then became depressed until only a few of the highest mountains and the southern portion of the island appeared above an ocean in which floating ice was abundant. The movement of glaciers from the higher levels ground down and removed from the ancient land surfaces the materials of which the deposits are mainly composed. As I have before observed, no traces of those land surfaces have yet been discovered near Stockport, but it is not improbable that some remains of pre-glacial lands may be concealed beneath the drift. The sandstones and other easily weathered rocks afford no traces of glaciation such as are to be found on the harder rocks, but the similarity of the smoothed and striated boulders to those found in the glaciers and moraines of Switzerland.

is sufficient proof that the markings have a common origin.

Drift beds containing large numbers of these striated boulders are found on the highest as well as the lowest ground in this locality, but the only example of the existence of marine shells is the occurrence of *tritella* in the clay at Heaton Mersey. Near Macclesham marine shells have been found at a height of 1200 feet above sea level. These facts prove conclusively that during a long period the most elevated land near Stockport was covered by a sheet of ice and submerged beneath the ocean.

The sands, gravels, and clays lie in lenticular masses about any definite arrangement, and I have not yet found a section showing the threefold division referred to by some authors. Sections of the deep wells in Stockport show the great difference in the thickness of these beds in places only a short distance apart. In a boring near Wellington-road the Sand and Clay went to a depth of nearly 200 feet while in another not 250 yards distant the Red Sandstone is reached at a depth of 80 feet. In the former instance it is probable that the boring has been carried down to the bed of an old valley now filled with Glacial deposit. The best section near the town is lately been opened in widening the Reddish line railway, and the variable nature and order of superposition of the drift beds is well illustrated in the masses of sand, gravel, and clay of which the section is composed. At the western end the bank is formed most entirely of unstratified clay capped by sand; at the centre the clay has a dicy structure, and in places is distinctly stratified and gradually thins out between two beds of sand at the bridge over the Manchester Old-road.

The railway cuttings at Heaton Norris expose sections of the sand, the bank near the goods warehouse showing fine examples of false bedding, and at the southern end a curious V shaped arrangement of the strata. On the banks of the Mersey at Brinnington a bed of sand and gravel rests on Permian Sandstone, and is capped by Boulder Clay. This section is well worth attention, and one of the largest boulders I have seen in the locality lies at a short distance on the river bank.

The Clay at Heaton Mersey presents some peculiar features. In a section at the brickworks a finely laminated clay about 30 feet thick forms the upper portion of the bed, and contains boulders, amongst which are angular fragments of coal over a foot in diameter. This laminated clay is considered to have been laid down by a tidal stream. A large proportion of the boulders found in the glacial beds are fragments of rocks not otherwise represented in the district, and include granites, volcanic lavas, and grits carried by the ice from Cumberland and the south of

Scotland. Much of the sand and gravel lying on the surface is drained from re-assorted glacial beds, the clay having been washed down to lower levels. Although comparatively modern in a geological sense, a long period of time must have elapsed since the last glacier disappeared from our hills. The general contour of the country must have been considerably altered by glacial action; prominent rocks would be ground down, valleys deepened, and the debris spread out in beds, following the inclination of the ground on which they were deposited, occasionally appearing to have a true dip.

#### MAN IN GLACIAL TIMES.

Great interest is attached to the newer glacial deposits on account of the light they throw on the question of the existence of man in these latitudes during the Ice Age, and although no human remains have been found in the older river terraces, the discovery of flint implements in those beds places the matter beyond doubt.

#### RIVER TERRACES.

The later river terraces may be seen between Heaton Mersey and Cheadle, and show distinctly the old areas formerly occupied by the river. The first is about 20 feet above the present river level, and extends towards Heaton Mersey. The second is about 25 feet above the last, and a third of similar elevation extends in the direction of Cheadle.

#### PEAT.

Beds of peat are found at several places near the town, some having a depth of six feet, and in which trunks of trees—such as oak and hazel—are embedded. These beds are the accumulated growths of mosses, principally *Sphagnum* and other aquatic plants, and lie in hollows holding water.

This closes my description of the local rocks, but it has been little more than a dry statement of facts possessing slight interest apart from their value to the geologist in his inquiry into the conditions and life history of the earth in past ages. The latter branch of the subject has scarcely been touched upon, and is too wide to allow of more than the passing notice it has received. To illustrate it properly it would be necessary to extend the description to more distant places, where the record of the rocks is more perfect, but a study of the local geology, imperfect though the record may be, reveals the important truth that the surface of our planet is subject to ceaseless change, a truth embodied in the following lines by Tennyson:—

There rolls the deep where grew the tree,  
Oh earth, what changes hast thou seen;  
There where the loud street roars hath been.  
The stillness of the central sea,  
The hills are shadows, and they flow  
From form to form, and nothing stands;  
Like mists they melt; the solid lands,  
Like clouds they shape themselves and go.

Stockport.

J. W. GRAY.

CHESHIRE IN DOMESDAY AND THE DOMESDAY  
OF CHESTER.

Those who have ever been induced to look into Domesday Book for an entry respecting Stockport must have been struck by the absence of any reference to its site. In the following paper I hope, to some extent at least, to point out the omissions, overcrowdings, and some of the peculiarities of that part of the book relating to Cheshire, and allude incidentally, of course, to the other volumes as handed down to us. I hope to be pardoned for reading out a few columns of dry figures, but in my opinion they are necessary to show that which I wish amongst other things to demonstrate—that there was in Vol. I. plenty of vellum to write upon, however great the desire may have been *not* to excerpt, or disinclination to give, or the desire to suppress information respecting our neighbourhood which we now think most important.

In the first volume of Domesday Book (1783) there are 383 membranes *a* and *b*, equal to 776 pages. In all these there are 65 wholly blank; 5,  $\frac{1}{2}$  blank; 13,  $\frac{1}{2}$  blank; 8,  $\frac{1}{4}$  blank; 17,  $\frac{1}{2}$  blank, and so on, giving a total of 123 pages, which is practically one-sixth of the whole *entirely blank*. The portion of the pages occupied by the writing varies in some records from 15 inches in depth to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches, so that if all the scribes had copied alike, the actual number of membranes used might have been 100 fewer in Vol. I. alone. Looking at that part of Vol. I. containing Cestrescire (Cheshire), we find two pages wholly blank and gaps in six others, giving in the aggregate one blank, making three pages wholly blank. In that part of the record, "Inter Ripam et Mersham," we find three wholly blank and two others together seven-eighths so, making with the blanks in the last mentioned part six seven-eighths pages wholly blanks; if to these be added the thirteen pages actually occupied by the record of Cheshire and the one and a half taken up by that relating to "Inter Ripam et Mersham," we have a total of twenty-one pages, about the space the two counties ought to have occupied, seeing that Middlesex, with its many owners, is on eight pages, Cornwall on nine, and Staffordshire on the same number only.

The list of Cheshire vills, mentioned in Vol. I. as being in the Hamestan hundred (which was practically co-extensive with the present Hundred and Forest of Macclesfield), contains only thirty-four places, including two Warnets (Werneth), two Botelages (Butley), and two other places. There are, however, about twenty-four places in the Hundred omitted, and of which there is not any Domesday record.

We all know how the survey was taken—before commissioners. Those for, the Midlands were Remi-

gius, Bishop of Lincoln; Walter Gifford, Earl of Buckingham; Henry de Ferers; and Adam, the brother of Eudo Dapifer. There, upon the oaths of the sheriffs—the lords of each manor—the Presbyters of every Church—the reeves of every hundred—and the bailiffs and six villans of every village were to enquire into and record the name of the place where held T. R. E. (in the time of King Edward the Confessor), who was the present possessor, how many hides—how many carrucates in demesne—how many persons yielding service of a higher kind—how many villani, how many cotarii (cottars)—how many servi (slaves)—how many Bordarii (Boors or Bordars)—how many tenants in socage, what quantity of marsh, wood, meadow, pasture; what mills, fishponds, and rights of fishery; how much added or taken away and added to other manors; what were the customs of the manors; what the gross value, T. R. E.; what the present rate and all this was to be triply estimated:

1. As the estate was held T. R. E., and its value.
2. As it was bestowed by William the Conqueror.
3. As to its value at the time of the survey.

It is certain that in some counties, and in the original rolls—probably in all—the number and value of the live stock were inserted in the returns, and it is extremely probable that when the Exchequer Domesday was excerpted from the rolls, the irrelevant matter appears to have been struck out, while in others it was retained. In this opinion Sir Henry Ellis concurs.

Ingulphus (if he ever existed), and who has had some very hard names applied to him—some have called him the lying Ingulphus—has borne testimony to the assertion that this survey was made in "imitation of the policy of Alfred;" but even in this also he is said to be erroneous. It is to be regretted that the forger—whoever he was—should have allowed even to Domesday Book, because we would have had such a book above suspicion, and not in need of corroboration by so uncertain an authority.

In 38 Henry III. there was produced in evidence an assize in the county of Chester, a roll called the *Domesday of Chester*, and it was mentioned by the judges in their judgment, in the King's Bench, when the case had been removed by *certiorari*. Dugdale cites a *Domesday Ebor*, which is still at York. We know of a *Domesday of St. Paul's*, of Winton 1122, of Ely (1083), of Exon (1083), and the *Boldon Book* for Durham (1183).

Turning to another part of the book for evidence of contradiction in terms, I would, if space permitted, enlarge and show from internal evidence in "Exon" that as far as regards entries from page 27 to 451, the returns seem exhaustive enough, and that not one "one swine was omitted," although 218 vaccae (cows)

have been recorded and 143 boves (oxen), there is but one *taurus* (bull). There are, however, 1440 *animalia* (animals). The latter do not include *runciai* nor *equas*, nor *equas cum pullis*, nor *equas indomitae*, nor *equus indomitus*, nor *equus sivestris*, nor *equas silvestras*, nor the forty *pues*, nor the thirteen *caballos*, nor the three *he-asses*. And we must conclude, that whilst in some manors we have a detailed account of cows, swine, sheep, wethers, she-goats, and *animalia ociosa*, the 1440 *animalia* must have contained *tauri* in some considerable numbers, or the race must perforce have died out.

On page 267b in Cestrescire we have an example of an entry wherein it is evident that during the inquiry some additional evidence was adduced, which led to the erasure by ruling out of such entries (unless it be the transcriber's error) and its repetition in extenso on the next page. I allude to the four lines respecting Gretford in Exestan Hund on p. 267b, and its enlargement to twelve lines on p. 268a. In the first we have Rainald holds of Earl Hugh, and in the second we find that Hugh and Osbern and Rainald hold Gretford. As Hugo Comes held the succeeding and many of the preceding, this Hugo may have been the Comes—the Osbern—Osbert fil Tezzonis (also of Warburton), and the Rainald he who held Erpestock, p. 267b. If the error be that of the transcriber, it is singular, for if the usually presumed care had been exercised the erasures might have been avoided. The erased entry evidently refers to Rainald's portion only. In most of the entries respecting other counties we find "Terra Regia," but in Cheshire and Shropshire they do not occur. In Somersetshire the names of the tenants, as enumerated at the beginning, do not answer to the arrangement of the return, and at the beginning of Cheshire they are omitted altogether. In Vol. II., Essex, p. 1, ten names are entered, and erased by two lines saltirewise; but the reason for this erasure is not patent, as the names agree with the owners and run in right order, unless it was found that the list had been given on page 1. The erasures, however, furnish information which is wanting in the list on page 1 in three instances—Berch in Berchingis, Aldreda, the name of the patron saint of Ely Abbey, and Martin, the name of the patron saint, De Bello Battle Abbey). The returns, however, fortunately, also contained these names. Domesday is also silent about the castles of Halton and Durham, though made appurtenances of baronies by Hugh Lupus.

Now where Domesday proves too much:—"In circopesberie (Shrewsbury) civitate fuit Rogerius Comes Abbatiam; et eidem dedit Monasterium St. Petri ubi erat parochia civitatis." In the Church of St. Peter here alluded to Roger of Arundel, also R. de Belesme and Roger de Montgomery, in 1083 vowed the construction of an abbey, placing

his gloves upon the altar in token of his intent." Such is the account of Ordericus Vitalis (Dug. iii., 513). On turning to Cal. Rot. Pat., p. 109, 4 E iii., we read that the king confirmed to the Abbot of St. Peter's, Salop, certain manors, &c., including "Medietatem piscarie de Merse," near Thelwall, granted to him by Ranulf, sometime Earl of Chester; and in the same volume, p. 201, 3 R ii., more ample confirmation of all previous grants to the Abbot of Salop, "Et notandum quod Hugo Comes Cestrie fuit fundator ejusdem in anno. 1087, et anno. 20 Willi Conquestrie." This note was made, evidently correcting the statement, 300 years after Domesday was written. There is also the inquiry, "Who founded the monastery, and who the abbey?"

The copying was only partial, or only part of what was copied has come down to us, for Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Durham are not described in the survey, neither is Lancashire under its proper title; but Furness and the northern part of the county, as well as the south of Westmorland, with part of Cumberland, are included with the West Riding of Yorkshire. That part of Lancashire which lies between the Ribble and the Mersey, which in 1086 comprehended six hundreds and 188 manors, is subjoined to Cheshire, and strange to say, part of Rutlandshire is described in the counties of Northants and Lincoln. At the end of the Atiscross Hundred in Cheshire we find North Wales occupying four lines only (269a), and there are eleven manors included "in Marcha de Wallis" on 186 b in eight lines only. On folio 269 there are three entries respecting manors in Cheshire "nunquam geldavit nec hidata fuit." This is also applied "In hoc eodem in est silva una nunquam geldavit, nec hidata fuit."

It must therefore be universally regretted that the more ample record has not been handed down to us instead of the imperfect one before us.

Stretford.

GEORGE ESBAILE.

P.S. In this paper I have mentioned "A Domesday of Chester," which is the *Roll* alluded to by Dugdale in a letter to William Vernon of Shakerley Hall, dated 23 Feb. 1647-8. "It is a great pitty that the *Roll* which was called Domesday for Cheshire is imbecilled (embezzled)" (Hamper, Dug. Correspondence). We still deplore that it is a pity that it has not since been met with, not even in any of the great collections of MSS. in the libraries which recently have been dispersed. But since reading the above paper in Stockport I have had the good fortune to find in a catalogue of MSS. in the Public Record Office, London, an entry "of a Roll called the Domesday Cestr" which is therein stated to have perpetual authority, and of a transcript of the same sent by the Justiciary of Chester many years before Dugdale's time. This will, I hope,

prove to be a faithful copy of the lost original, which may yet be presented anew in this *transcript of the same* and its publication form a fitting memorial of the octo-centenary of the compilation of Domesday by order of William the Conqueror.

2—Speech delivered at the annual meeting of the Useful Knowledge Society, Macclesfield, November, 1842. Macclesfield: Printed by Thomas M. King.—8vo.

I suppose them to be Samuel Greg's. C.W.I.

WILLIAM BIRCH.—At the meeting of the members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society in Stockport recently was exhibited the breast-bone of one William Birch, in which was embedded the two halves of a bullet. In this I was very much interested and hoped to hear something about the tragic incident, but there was so much to say on other matters and so little time to say it, that it brings me to appeal to some of the readers of your *Notes and Queries* for a few particulars about it.

A. MUMF.

## Queries.

CHESHIRE BIBLIOGRAPHY.—Who was the author of the following? :—

1—Speech delivered at the annual meeting of the Society of Useful Knowledge, in Macclesfield, September 23rd, 1840. London, 1840—8vo.

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SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1886.

## Notes.

### THE DERBY RELICS.

At the meeting of the members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, at Stockport, there were exhibited photographs of the gauntlets, collar, and spur worn by the Earl of Derby at the time of his execution at Bolton in 1651. The gauntlets and spur the unfortunate earl presented to William Prescott, a faithful retainer of his family, and a direct ancestor of the late venerable rector of Stockport, as a memento. Prescott obtaining from the executioner the earl's collar, which to this day bears the marks of his blood. He also became possessed of a receipt bearing the signature of the equally famous Countess of Derby, a photograph of which was also exhibited. These relics are preserved with much care by the representatives of the family to which they were given. (of *Stockport: Ancient and Modern*, i., 56.) The photographs are the property of Mr H. Heginbotham, J.P., having been presented to that gentleman by the late Miss Prescott.

To these photographs I would call attention, but more particularly would I call attention to the photograph of what was a most important document, bearing the well-known autograph signature of Charlotte de Tréville, Countess of Derby, the gallant defender of Lathom House against the Parliamentarians. The lady had at that stronghold put herself at the head of her tenants and summoned to her assistance the gentlemen of the neighbourhood. They

raised midst sap and siege  
The banners of their rightful liege  
At their she-captain's call,  
Who, miracle of womankind,  
Lent mettle to the meanest hind  
That mann'd her castle wall.

She was a woman born with qualities for ruling, and she manifested much of the spirit of a former Lady Derby, who, in answer to a complaint made against her, said, "I am a gentlewoman, comen of the greatest in Lancashire and Cheshire, and they shall know I right well!" The autograph of Lady Charlotte M. Bailey said, had frequently puzzled those who had come across it, the difficulty being the interlarded double "C" preceding "derby," arranged as in the two C's in Charles II.'s twopences. There was reason to believe that the second C was used out of compliment to the King, after whom she named her first son, the King being a sponsor. The first instance of its use that we know of was in a letter dated from Lathom 14th October, 1642, printed in the "Farington Papers," page 87, engraved on plate II. in the same volume. It was also found in an indenture dated "22 Feb., 1651" between her and Thomas Birch, of Birch, who afterwards received her water cornmill, called Traid Mill, at Cheetham, for fifty years. One of the witnesses to the grant was the herald Dugdale. She also used the monogram in her will, dated 1654; in a petition to the King, dated 1660, recommending a Cavalier parson to a Lancashire benefice; as also in a letter dated London, 1666, preserving Cheetham's College, in which she reminded the Feoffees of the Hospital that they were using

Dower-house and had given her no compensation. The signature occurred in the present instance in 1648, in connection with a part of her life about which little was on record, belonging to the time of her severe domestic trouble following the surrender of Lathom, when the family estates were seized and confiscated. It was in August, 1644, that Prince Rupert and his men, urged by the distress of the Countess and animated by the news of the gallantry of her defence, dashed through Stockport, forcing their way past the local Horatius, Colonel Dukinfield, at the narrow bridge, seized Bolton, and broke up the leaguer of Lathom. Blundell the Cavalier heard the Countess say that very year that since miracles ceased in the Church she thought that there had not been a more wonderful thing than the preservation of Lathom House. Rupert advised Lady Derby to retire from the stronghold to the island kingdom of Man, where her husband was; and, after pledging her jewels for £3000, she did so, accompanied by her three sons and three daughters, the eldest of whom, Charles (Lord Stanley), was aged 18. On 15th June, 1646, a pass was got for her from the House of Lords to come to London out of Lancashire. But in August she was still in the island in great anxiety, her three sons having secretly left it. When, in the preceding month, the last negotiations between the King and Parliament were taking place, it was insisted in the papers of negotiation sent to the King at Newcastle, as it had been before, that the two Counts Palatine, the Earl of Derby (first on the list next the Counts), and 33 others, including Bishop Bramhall, should be excluded from the amnesty that was proposed, and seven of them were to be put to death. (Thurloe, p. 80.) Hereupon Lady Derby, much alarmed, left the island for London in order to interfere in her husband's behalf. She embarked in an unseaworthy boat, and was 48 hours in crossing, being in great danger. On Tuesday, 6th February, 1647, she was in "Lenguisher," being near one of the Earl's houses (not Lathom, which had been let out), and she remained there a fortnight to raise money amongst the tenantry for her journey. She states that she was about to start for London on Monday following. On arriving there she made a long stay, residing at her house at Chelsea. From that place she dated a letter on the 10th March. A trace of her presence in the city appeared on the 15th July, when the House of Lords gave liberty to the children Catherine, Amelia, Edward, and William to transport themselves, with their servants and goods, from the Isle of Man to any port. In September following Parliament granted to the children one-fifth of their father's confiscated revenue. During that month Lady Derby was paying visits to the King at Hampton Court. The Earl was then on his island, very lonely on account of the absence of his wife, said to be engaged in London on his "great business." On 14th March, 1648, writing

from London, the Countess said:—"I am advised to go to Lancashire and try to live upon what they have allowed my children [viz., the fifths], for I received no money, and I hope my presence may facilitate the means employed for getting it. Being near and on the spot, we must live economically, and make the best of what we have." The Countess returned to her husband, and on the 25th March, writing from the island to her sister-in-law, she said:—"Necessity obliges me to quit this place, and our friends of the Parliament advise me to do it, telling me there is no doubt our business will go on very well." It was under these circumstances, eleven days later, the place not being stated, that she gave the receipt now under notice, for money greatly needed, to this effect:—

April 5th, 1648.—I doe hereby acknowledge to have received from my servant Will'm Prescottt the some of fiftie pounds w<sup>ch</sup> he said some was received att Hawrden according to ane order from the Comittes of Flintshire for a fifth parte for the use of my children—I say rec'd the some of 50*li*.  
O O derby.

This William Prescottt was of Ayrfield, in Upholland, near Lathom, born in 1603. He became a very devoted servant to the Derby family, and was employed in important matters. He followed the Earl in his military adventures, and was with him when he raised an army in Lancashire, following him into the campaign which terminated in the nobleman's capture. He kept with his master up to the end, being his attendant upon the scaffold at Bolton, 15th October, 1651. There the Earl, at the critical moment, partly it may be to encourage himself and partly to keep up the spirits of his servant made a remark taken from the language of the old Lancashire sports, "Prescottt, set thy foot to mine," i.e., let us stand shoulder to shoulder and go through this business manfully—much in the spirit of a Roman gladiator who, when the fatal stab was given, made it a point of etiquette *honeste decumbere*, to make his fall in a graceful manner. The Earl gave Prescottt his gloves, his hat, and his band, together with a Queen Elizabeth sixpence, the only coin left in his pocket; and then the unrighteous sentence was carried out. The relics enumerated became heirlooms in the Prescottt family, and descended to the Stockport rector of that name. "William Prescottt of Uphold" had to pay £37 to redeem his estate for being implicated with the Royalists, and he died in 1653. He received this £50 for his mistress at Hawarden, near Chester. This property the Derby family had acquired from Henry VIII., and it descended to the husband of the gallant Countess. It was bought from the sequestrators by Serjeant Glynnne, who belonged to the prevailing party, and who managed to retain it at the Restoration. He it is of whom Butler in "Hudibras" said—

Glynnne and Maynard

To make good subjects traitors strain hard;  
and many are of opinion that there is a group of politicians in the same quarter, descended from the same



Serjeant, to whom the couplet might at this moment be justly applied.  
J. E. BAILEY.  
Stretford.

#### THE RECTORS OF MALPAS.

The following article, relating to the Ecclesiastical anomaly which prior to last year existed at Malpas, is taken from the *St. James's Gazette*:—A year ago, on the blank walls and hoardings throughout Cheshire, there might have been seen an auctioneer's placard to the effect that on such and such a day the furniture, &c., of the rectory house of the Lower Mediety of Malpas was to be sold by auction. This advertisement, of little purport as it might have seemed on the face of it, was virtually the epitaph on a very curious ecclesiastical anomaly. Malpas is a small agricultural town in Cheshire. The long straggling street of gabled houses, the old cross from which the monks from the Abbey of Chester were wont to preach on market days, the vast parish church with its noble architecture and wealth of historical interest, all lend a charm of picturesque quaintness to the dreamy little town. But, besides these characteristics, Malpas, until last year, enjoyed a far more distinctive peculiarity, which was briefly this—that, whereas all other parishes in England, if they have a rector at all, have only *one*, little Malpas had *two*. These two rectors were entirely unconnected with and independent of one another. Both had fine rectory-houses, ample glebe, and goodly stipends; and both had the undisputed right of preaching from the pulpit of the Parish Church whatever doctrines he individually listed. The whole parish of Malpas, then, was divided into two halves, called respectively the Upper and Lower Mediety. The rectory of the Upper Mediety was in the gift of a good old Cheshire family; that of the Lower Mediety was in the gift of this family and of the Crown alternately. Now it may be reasonably assumed that, when the two Meetings were held by the nominees of the same party, the views of the two rectors were in harmony on the fundamental questions of the Church. But when it fell to the lot of the Crown to appoint the rector of the Lower Mediety, there was nothing to prevent the two rectors of Malpas alternately ascending the parish pulpit and preaching doctrines diametrically opposed to one another. This extraordinary state of things was in existence until last year, when on the death of one of the rectors the two livings were merged into one, and the anomaly swept away for ever. How long the custom had been extant, and whence it originated, it is difficult to say; there are several theories, but the following explanation is dear to the Cheshire heart:—James I., in the early years of his reign, when the cares of the new kingdom of Great Britain lay heavily on his not too stalwart shoulders, used constantly to travel backwards and forwards between London and Edinburgh. During one of these journeys he happened

to find himself one summer evening in the little town of Malpas. Travelling incognito, he put up as an ordinary individual at the Lion Inn. Time hung heavily on his hands; and so the King went into the tap-room to see what was going on. Here, deep in argument, he found two gentlemen, who from their dress were unmistakably clergymen of the Established Church; they were, in fact, the rector of Malpas and his curate. The discussion was a theological one; and as King James knew more about theology than about anything else, he joined in the conversation, and soon astounded his audience of two by the quips and quiddities of his subtle mind. But talking is apt to produce a feeling of exhaustion, even though the subject be Predestination or the efficacy of Works without Faith; and when the rector suggested that a flagon of ale would restore the discussion to its original vigour the motion was carried *sem. con.* The ale was good, the night warm, the disputants heated; and as the shadows of the elms were lost in the growing gloom a couple of flagons had been satisfactorily disposed of. The company rose to go. So far all had been peace and good-will. The delicate question, however, who was to pay for the ale, at once destroyed all this unity and brotherly love. The rector had undoubtedly ordered the first flagon, but then all three had drunk it; the second flagon had been ordered by general consent. Now the story goes that at this critical moment the curate happened to catch a glimpse of a jewelled star on the King's breast, which had been hitherto concealed by the folds of a light cloak. Surmising that he was in the presence of a man of position, and being a young gentleman of discretion, the curate at once suggested that the stranger should be regarded as a guest, and that the cost of the ale should be shared between the rector and himself. But this did not suit the views of the rector, who seems to have preferred drinking ale to paying for it. "Nay, nay," quoth he, "let each man pay his own shot; that one man should pay for what another consumeth is contrary to right and reason and the good fashion of Malpas." "Then," retorted the curate, "will I pay for him;" and throwing down the money he left the inn. The curate was correct in his surmise, as we know; and a few weeks later a document came down from London under seal-royal, dividing the parish into two "Medietys," and giving the curate his choice of the two livings. Such is the explanation universally accepted at Malpas. The professional antiquarian, we admit, is wont to dismiss it with sneering. But on the other hand, the successive landlords of the Lion were to a man prepared to stake their lives on the truth of the tale; and, to witness that they lied not, there stands to this day in the tap-room of the Lion a certain ash chair of antique form, known as King James's chair, which is reputed to be the very chair in which the Royal pedant sat on that sultry summer eve.

CHURCH CHARITIES AT CHEADLE.

We are pleased to congratulate the rector and churchwardens of Cheadle upon the restoration to the church of a copy of the list of the original benefactions, which it will be remembered was removed by the late rector at the time of the church's restoration. The credit, however, of their replacement is, we understand, rather due to Mr E. D. Stone and the generosity of a leading member of the congregation. They are enclosed in a neatly-carved oak frame, on two panels of oak, and whether as a work of art or as a record of the pious generosity of our forefathers, are a decided ornament to the parish church. They are placed on the west wall, on the south side of the belfry, the framework matching with the elaborately carved organ loft, great credit being due to Mr Roger Bateson, of Heaton Norris, by whom the carving and tracing has been executed, as well as to Mr Whitehead, of Manchester, who has spaced out and painted the lettering in a most artistic fashion. The following is a full copy :—

BENEFACCTIONS.

1663. Mrs Elizabeth Hansby left £100 0s 0d, the interest yearly to be distributed in Bread every Lord's Day to the poor of the Township of Cheadle Bulkeley who attend Divine Service. The above interest to be paid out of an estate in Ack Lane, known by the name of Burgess estate.

1669 Mrs Dorothy Bulkeley left six acres of Land in Cheadle Mosley, the profits yearly to apprentice a Child or Children of some poor tenant in the township of Cheadle Bulkeley.

1678. Richard Downs, of Brook, left £3 10s 0d yearly to Ten poor, aged Persons in the Township of Cheadle Mosley.

1745. Jas. Kelsoll, Gent., left £30 0s 0d. The interest to poor Housekeepers who are not Pensioners in the Township of Mosley and Bulkeley, the interest to be paid by the overseers of the poor in the said township.

1772. Mr Jno. Gatley, of Manchester, Gent., left £100 0s 0d, the interest to be applied in purchasing School Books and instructing Six poor Boys or Girls who belong to Cheadle Bulkeley in the English Language.

1785. Mr Jonathan Robinson, of Cheadle Hulme, gave three acres of Land, Cheshire Measure, the Yearly profits to pay a Schoolmaster in Cheadle Hulme for instructing eight poor Children.

1839. The Rev. Matthew Dunn, late of Cheadle Bulkeley, Clerk, by his will, dated Dec. 17th, bequeathed to the Churchwardens of this parish the sum of £100 towards purchasing a clock for the Tower of this Church. The said Matthew Dunn, by his will gave the sum of £200 0s 0d to George Ban-

croft, Joseph Nadin, Joseph Downs, and Joseph Higham, upon trust, to invest the same in the public funds, or upon Government or real security, and to distribute the interest and dividends once or oftener each year in Blankets, Clothing, Food or Coals, or both, to such poor people, parishioners of Cheadle, as his trustees should deem proper objects of Charity, and to appoint New Trustees when reduced to two

1818. Reginald Fowden, formerly of Cheadle, bequeathed to the Rector and Churchwardens of the Parish of Cheadle a sum of £2000 0s 0d upon trust, to apply the interest thereof amongst Ten poor, aged, Blind Persons residing in the Parish of Cheadle, in equal proportions of £100s 0d per annum each. This bequest was in the year 1870 disclosed to the then Rector and Churchwardens. Their claim was disputed, and, with the sanction of the Charity Commissioners and the parishioners of Cheadle, the sum of £1137 16s 3d was accepted in discharge, the same being invested in 3 per cent. annuities in the name of the official trustee of Charitable funds, the income to be paid to the Rector and Churchwardens of the parish of Cheadle for the time being.

Cheadle.

S. S. A.

SANDBACH FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The following relating to Sandbach fifty years ago may interest your readers: The publichouses have generally been well preserved, but fifty years ago the George Hotel was "the house" of the town, and was kept by a man named Emery. The coaches stayed here on their way from Liverpool to London, and one inhabitant informs us that he has often witnessed the interesting sight of a coach full of prisoners bound hand and foot, on their way to transportation for a term of years or life to Van Dieman's Land. Frank and Betty Birtles were interesting characters at the time of which we now speak. They were toffee vendors, and the very peculiar sort of toffee which they made was known by "Long Frank and Short Betty." Fifty years ago the sites of the shops belonging to Messrs Walton and Lunt were merely garden ground. The premises of Mr Fox, the photographer, were then partly occupied by a currier's shop belonging to Emmanuel Booth, and by the residence of "Peggy and Dicky" Fisher. Many curious anecdotes are related of these characters, which we have not space to chronicle here. They kept a mangle, and it is said that they were "patronised" by all the gentry round. The servants who brought the clothes to the mangle came from miles round, and sometimes when a number of them congregated together much had to be spoken of before the time for separation came. This is probably the reason that Peggy Fisher was the proprietress of a sort of embryo registry office. Her hus-

band was a coal carrier. Near to the institution there was the butcher's shop of Mr Ralph Arden—a sprightly young man at the time of which we speak. Close to there was also the residence of Madame Wells, who was a very charitable lady. About the site of Mr Allman's clothier's shop, a confectioner carried on a small trade, whilst next door, somewhere about Mr Cooke's jeweller's shop, lived an eccentric inhabitant of the name of John Birchell, or as he was more familiarly called, "Old Crab." This gentleman had a predilection for growing sunflowers in his garden at the front of his house. Though this circumstance was not particularly noted at the time, it is a fact that his garden was generally well filled with this particular flower. The Old Hall was occupied by Mr Thomas Bostock, a silk throwster, the same gentleman who built the factory at the top of the hill. The present licence of the Old Hall was removed from the Crown Inn, a publichouse which stood at the bottom of the church steps. Half-way up the hill was situated what was called the poorhouse. A more elegant establishment at Arclid has since been erected. At the top of the hill lived Charles Dunning, a personage who kept a bear, and got his living by visiting the various wakes in Staffordshire and Cheshire. Report speaks favourably as to this gentleman's pugilistic abilities. Over the door of his residence was the carved image of a bear, so that he was evidently not afraid of making known his profession.—*Tomlinson's Almanack.*

Sandbach.

H. P.

## Replies.

WILLIAM BIRCH.

William Birch was shot at on July 23rd, 1819, in Loyalty-place, Churchgate, but the result was not fatal. He afterwards was enabled to get into a garden in Millgate, belonging to Mr Joseph Lane, who immediately took him to Mr Killer, surgeon, in the same street, Mr Flint being likewise sent for in consultation, and the Rev. Charles Prescott was present to take any deposition he might be desirous of making. The three gentlemen, after duly considering the matter, thought it advisable that Birch should remain where he then was until the excitement in the town had in some measure subsided, which was until past midnight. Stockport at that period could not boast of cabs or hackney coaches; but there was one John Lawton, a dealer in milk at the bottom of Lancashire Hill, who had a Sedan chair, which was procured for conveying Birch to his father's residence in Little Underbank, instead of his own home in Churchgate a file of soldiers preceding and following the Sedan, which was accompanied by Mr Flint and myself. Having been laid comfortably in bed, Mr

Flint made a thorough examination where the ball had entered, enlarging the opening in the chest an or two inches, hoping that it would eventually make its way out, which, however, never occurred. The patient, nevertheless, when sufficiently recovered from the shock to the system, was taken to his own home and lived several years afterwards, having a pension bestowed upon him by the then Government, Lord Sidmouth being head of the Home Department. This was enjoyed by him until death, and was afterwards continued to his widow during life. The remains of both now lie interred at the north side of St. Mary's Churchyard. After Birch's death the ball was found firmly embedded in the breast bone. The bone cut in two, disclosing the two halves of the bullet, was exhibited by Mr H. Heginbotham at the meeting of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society in May this year, and since then has been placed amongst the town's relics in Vernon Park Museum, Stockport.

The following is a copy of a handbill circulated at the time of the occurrence, and issued from the press of Mr Lomax at a period anterior to the commencement of the *Advertiser* by him:—

### TO THE PUBLIC.

Warren-Bulkeley Arms Inn, Stockport.  
August 6th, 1819.

THE positive information upon the oaths of so many persons that have already been examined before the Magistrates, of Mr WILLIAM BIRCH, of Stockport, being SHOT, of it's being done feloniously, and of the persons who actually did it being identified, would have been sufficient in other times to have satisfied the public mind, that such a horrid deed had been perpetrated, and could not be excused.

That after a painful investigation of all the circumstances which have occupied nearly three weeks, the committing of two persons, and the advertising of others by name, should be found necessary to publish one fact more is lamentable. But to prevent the Public being further misled (although permanent prejudice may be out of the question), this may induce them to make further enquiries which the innocent individuals immediately interested have never had the anxiety yet to do for themselves.

Mr Birch, on the 23rd ultimo, a little before ten at night was coming from his own home towards Mr Prescott's back gates, and by the wall within about twenty yards of the steps, which lead up to the gates, he was met by Bruce and two or three others (he thinks three), who halted, and Bruce questioned him about Harrison. Mr Birch addressed Bruce by name, and asked about Mr Sims, when one of the men who has escaped from justice, and is advertised, immediately fired a pistol close to the left cheek of Bruce, at the body of Mr Birch, who apprehended more violence, and fell groaning over the palisades of Mr Lloyd's garden, and past the windows of the room where sat Miss Holmes (then as yet a visitor), Mr Flint, Surgeon to the Dispensary, the two Miss Lloyds, and both the Sons of Mr Lloyd, at supper which is known to Mr Lloyd's servants.

The moment Mr Birch had passed the windows, and violently calling out, the whole party rose up and ran together (much alarmed, of course) into the garden, and

were met by Mrs Bates and Mrs Stopford, and many more neighbours, who live in Loyalty Place. The garden was searched, but no one found, as it afterwards appeared Mr Birch had got over a wall and into Mr Lane's house. Mr Lloyd's clerk, Beely, was standing with Aaron Jenkinson and Others, at his own passage door, nearly opposite; and his other clerk, Bullock, was going up the Churchgate, opposite the Britannia, and was there met by the said Mrs Stopford's daughter, at the time the pistol was fired. Mr Robinson and some of his family, were at the windows of his house, very near the spot, at the time.

Mr Birch had no pistol. Mr Killer first saw him after he was shot, and probed his wound. Mr K. was afterwards assisted by Mr Flint and Mr Amers. Bruce was taken before three o'clock in the morning, and described the other men with him, and pointed out the mark on his face made by the flash from the pistol. William Pearson, a prisoner,

ran after Birch into Loyalty Place, and he was followed by David Davies, who lives with Mr Leah, in Edgeley; the latter have been already under examination. The Surgeons above-named, as well as the Surgeon of the 15th Hussars, all agree that a bullet is now lodged near to the midriff of Mr Birch, having taken a direction backwards and downwards, by reason of its having come in contact with the breast bone.

Mr Lloyd, at the time, was fortunately with Messrs Armstrong, Wood, and Bowyer, who had met him at the Warren Bulkeley Arms, concerning the bail for Mr Harrison.

The wicked Conspiracy which has been entered into by certain Individuals in the Town, to involve the characters of innocent persons, because they are loyal, will meet with Exposure and Reprobation, if not due Punishment.

Stockport.

J. W.

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SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

#### XII.

In my last paper I left Mr Samuel Chadwick awaiting the arrival of Mr Sims Reeves to pay him a visit at his residence in Wharf-street, Heaton Norris. A sumptuous banquet was prepared, to which Mr Chadwick had invited a select few of his friends, to meet the illustrious tenor. Mr Chadwick at this time may be said to have been at the height of his prosperity and popularity. He had a goodly following of supposed friends (I had almost written false friends), who stuck to him like leeches while the sum shone, and were ever ready to partake of his hospitality. He rose rapidly in public estimation, and was installed in some of the most honourable offices at Tiviot Dale Chapel, and was looked up to by his real friends—the members of that sanctuary. Unluckily for him he allowed himself to be dragged into the arena of politics. He was elected a councillor for Heaton Norris Ward, and stood high on the poll at several elections. He was unfortunately drawn into a law suit, which greatly aggrieved many of his true friends. From this time his prosperity began to wane at the mill. His machinery was depreciating. Several years of bad trade ensued, and the money which he ought to have spent on his machinery to keep it in order had been spent in unnecessary, and was to a very large amount got from him by one or two of his fair weather friends. I have often heard it said that misfortunes seldom come singly. It was so in

Mr Chadwick's case. A break-down on a large scale to his steam engine was the finishing stroke to his misfortunes. A collapse was the sequel. A number of his true friends were willing to assist him out of his difficulties, but he refused their offer and preferred going through the bankruptcy court. Mr Chadwick appeared to have lost all his energy after this. He tried several ways of gaining a livelihood; sickness came upon him, and he lay prostrate on several occasions for weeks. He died (in my opinion) broken-hearted on Friday, October 5th, 1883, aged 53 years, and was interred at the Stockport Borough Cemetery on October 9th. He was generous to a fault; and not being a good discernor of men and their characters he judged everyone to be honest like himself. This was the main cause of his ruin.

There were two individuals (whose names I could mention) who filched over a thousand pounds from Mr Chadwick. These gentlemen left Stockport some years ago, and the town has been all the better without them. The mill, after standing idle for many years, has now become the property of the Rivett family, the enterprising yarn doublers, of Heaton Norris, and it is now undergoing a thorough renovation, and will shortly be filled with the best of machinery, and I hope in full work, and the firm prospering.

On the opposite side of the canal is an extensive corn mill, now owned by Messrs Nelstrop and Co. The first portion of this corn mill was built by Mr Beard in the year 1819. In 1823 the lower storey of this corn mill was filled with doubling frames owned by Mr Thomas Foster, who was often seen

in company with the late Mr Ralph Orrell, the founder of the Travis Brook Mill. Mr Foster was a diminutive person, and had a very swaggering gait. By his pompous style of walking he gained for himself the sobriquet, and was best known by the operatives as "Cockey Foster." I never heard of Mr Foster having works anywhere else but in this corn mill cellar. Across the canal and opposite the gable end of this corn mill stood a wind mill. This for many years was owned and worked by a family of the name of Heyes. It was burned down in the year 1857, being worked at the time by a person named Wilson.

About the year 1814 Messrs John and Joseph Read built their cotton mill on the canal side. The way to it was down Sandy-lane a few hundred yards, then turning to the left we go the full length of Coronation-street, and arrive at Read's cotton mill. This was worked by the Read family with great regularity until the time of the cotton famine, 1862; then, like many more, it succumbed to its fate. There were many families I knew who never worked anywhere but at this mill up to the time of its stopping. A portion of the mill was burned down a short time ago. Another portion is now worked by the Rivett family, who have constructed a foot bridge across the canal, which forms a communication to their works on the other side.

The oldest mill on Lancashire hill is the one erected on the Old-road, towards the close of the last century, by Mr George Higson. From the early part of the year 1826 to the year 1840 I resided with my parents within a hundred yards of this mill. The most dreaded sound to my ears from the year 1828 to the year 1826 was the rattle of the tinder box and the click of the flint and steel, caused by my father trying to obtain a light by these means. I have often heard my father trying to gain a light by this process, and I have lain in bed snug and warm, wishing all the while that he would not succeed, thinking I should be allowed to lie in bed until the light was obtained. The wish was not always granted, for on many occasions we have been aroused and ordered to dress in the dark and hurry off to our work. The tinder box has now become a relic of the past. I may describe what was to be found in every house before lucifer matches were invented. Ours was a round tin box, four or five inches in diameter; it had a loose lid, which fitted inside the box and was used as an extinguisher. My mother was the manufacturer of the tinder, and it was made in the

following manner. She got a piece of old rag, either cotton or linen would do. This she placed on the fender, and let it remain there until it was thoroughly dry. She placed it on the end of the poker, ignited it, and held it over the tinder box until it ceased flaming. She then let the residue drop into the box, pressed it down with the lid, and the tinder was ready for use. The matches of those days were clumsy-looking things in comparison with the matches of the present. They were made of thin slips of wood, about six inches in length, the ends pointed and dipped in melted brimstone. They were sold in bundles, about thirty in a bundle, and were spread out like a fan, so that every match might be seen. The tinder box, flint, steel, and matches were then indispensable objects in every household. When we resided in Chester-gate we were generally awakened in the morning by hearing the watchman cry the hour as he went his round, or by the sound of the men's clogs and the females' pattens as they clattered on the pavement in going to their work.

My earliest association with Heaton Norris was the neighbourhood of Hesketh-street. There were very few houses in this locality then, and gardens were to be seen all round. On the first morning of our residence there none of the familiar sounds of the clogs and pattens struck my ear. To my astonishment we were awakened by the tolling of a bell. This was Mr William Higson's factory bell, which was rung every morning to awaken the workpeople, at a quarter to five in the summer season and a quarter past in the winter. It was late at night when we had done dinner from Chester-gate to Hesketh-street, Heaton Norris. Our furniture and bedding was huddled together, and the only bedsteads erected that night in our new house were those on which my father and mother slept; we children had to sleep on beds placed on the cellar floor. As stated before, I was awakened in the morning by the tolling of Mr Higson's factory bell, and then came the click of the flint and steel, and I heard my father hammering away on the steel, could see the sparks fly, and I heard my father saying angry words about the tinder being damp, meanwhile I was in good hopes of lying in bed a little longer. At last a spark would fall on a dry spot of the tinder, and ignite it. Smoke reigned for a few moments, and then came a glow on my father's face. He was blowing at the ignited tinder. He succeeded in lighting the match, and candle, and my brother and myself were

hurried off to our work. I have tried to depict the way our forefathers adopted to get a light.

My first occupation at Mr William Higson's mill, Old-road, Heaton Norris, was to go and learn to be a bobbiner; that is, that I was to take the empty obbins out of the spinning mule creel and replace them with full ones. My other duties were to earn to clean under the machinery. In doing this the cleaner had to be quick in his movements, otherwise he was in danger of being caught between the carriage and what was called the Samsons. The carriage was the portion of the mule which carried the spindles. This was driven out by steam power to the extent of about sixty inches; it was then pushed back, and the "faller" guided by the pinner. The Samsons were cast iron fixtures which supported the rollers and the creel. I have known several boys seriously injured and one killed whilst following this occupation.

My master was an elderly man named Sutton. I was told that he was at one time manager for Mr Higson, and was superseded by Mr Joseph Littlewood. I afterwards became the little piecer for Mr James Rhodes, who spun on the next mules to Mr Sutton's. The rope from the belfry came through the ceiling of several of the upper rooms and terminated between the creels of Messrs Sutton and Rhodes's mules. This dangling rope was as a sore temptation to me, and I often longed to give a pull at it. One day I was between the creels and near the rope. I could not resist the temptation any longer. I observed that the portion of the creels where I stood between were filled with full rovings, and that I could not be seen. I took hold of the rope, and pulled with all my might, not thinking I was doing wrong. I could feel the swing of the bell, and I knew that I was making it tell, so I pulled away for about a minute, and then went to my piecing, not knowing the commotion I had caused by my foolish act. The neighbours were soon in the streets inquiring what was the matter. It was reported that the mill was on fire, and a large concourse of people were soon surrounding the mill. Mr Joseph Littlewood, who was a very shrewd person, did his utmost to find out who rung the bell, but he did not succeed. Shortly after this adventure a neighbour of ours named Joseph Brown, who was a mule spinner at the Hope Hill mill, solicited my mother to allow me to go and piece for him; he succeeded, his request was granted, and I became his piecer at once.

Nearly five years elapsed before I went to work at Higson's mill again. During that time great alterations had taken place. A number of old cottages had been demolished in Hesketh and Short streets to make way for the new engine house and the mill adjoining, lately held by Mr Bigby as his waste warehouse. Formerly Mr Higson's engine was supplied with water from two reservoirs situated in a field opposite the Heaton Norris Workhouse, now the Vestry Hall. Mr Higson caused a tunnel to be made to a considerable depth, extending from his new engine house to the canal, and afterwards drew his water from it. Mr Higson reluctantly parted with his old engineer (William Gratton), who had "tented" his old engine many years, and engaged a young man named William Hammond. This gentleman was a great card in his day. He was master of his work, and he did not forget to let people know it. He dressed very showily for a person of his means. On Sundays he would strut about in a coat of some peculiar colour, and a tall white beaver hat. In other respects he was a very decent fellow. He was good company, and was highly respected by Mr Higson and by Mr Littlewood, the manager. A general holiday took place—I think it was on the accession day of the Queen, the 20th June, 1837. A number of Mr Higson's hands were showing their loyalty by the firing of cannons and a number of 56 lb. weights. Most of these large weights have a square hole in the bottom several inches deep. Firing these weights is a very dangerous process. It is resorted to because a greater report is made when fired. The general way of firing them is this. The hole in the weight is charged with gunpowder, a wooden plug is then driven in the hole by a heavy hammer or mallet, a small hole is then bored through the plug by a gimlet; the weight is then placed in a hole in the ground (the top downwards) and made to stand as perpendicular as possible. The hole in the plug is then filled with powder, a light is put to it, and away flies the plug in the air, generally in splinters, and a loud report takes place, which is all that is desired by the bombardiers.

On this auspicious day Mr Hammond was the principal artillerist. One of the weights had been charged, a light was put to the gunpowder on the plug, there was a flash, but no report; the plug still remained in the weight. After waiting a few seconds Mr Hammond went to put some more powder in the hole, bored in the plug, and whilst doing so the powder ignited, the plug flew out and

shattered his hand, taking away his thumb and several fingers. This was a sad calamity to Mr Hammond, but not in a pecuniary sense. He had the best surgical aid which could be got, and when he was convalescent Mr Higson supplied him with the best food in his larder, the best wine in his cellar, and paid him his wages during all the time he was off work. Mr Hammond worked for the firm during Mr Higson's life and that of Mr Littlewood.

When I went to work at this mill the second time I went as a throstle doffer. Mr George Turner was the overlooker, and had been many years. He was a person who understood his work well, and knew how to gain the esteem of the hands working under him. He left Mr Higson's employ to go and be the head overlooker at Messrs Marshall and Sons', at the Park Mill. After being there a few years he left Stockport to go and manage a mill at Calver in Derbyshire. I have not heard anything of him since. A person named Mr Astbury Prince succeeded Mr Turner. Mr Prince had only been in Mr Higson's employ a few days when in striking one of the doffers, named Henry Wild, with a narrow strap, he had the misfortune to injure the lad's eye, and the youth had to stay at home some time on account of the injury. This accident caused a feud between Prince and some of his doffers, which lasted all the time that he was employed at the mill. Mr Prince had a nice set of screwkeys; in time these all disappeared. He had a valuable slide rule, which also disappeared. He was accustomed to doff off his shoes, place them under his bench, and walk about the room in clippers. One Saturday night I was the last in the room excepting Mr Prince. I was sweeping the aisle, where stood Mr Prince's bench. I could see him in the act of putting on his shoes. As soon as he had got one foot in his shoe he uttered an awful oath and called me to him. When I got to him he held up his foot to my gaze, and said, "Jack, what's this?" I could see that his ankle was embedded in tallow, so I said, "Tallow." He then examined his other shoe, and found that also half-filled with tallow. When his passion had cooled a little, he said, "Who's done this?" I answered that I did not know. He appeared to doubt my answer. He put his hand in his pocket and pulled out a five-shilling piece, and said that he would give it me if I would tell who put the tallow in his shoes. I did not know, and of course I could not tell him. I believe he never got to know. Many more such tricks were played upon him which were

never brought to light. I got to know some time afterwards who the offender was. I have worked with many reckless characters, but never with a bad crew as worked in Mr Higson's throstle-rooms. At one time our left off clothing was not safe. We would hang them up in the accustomed place, and when we came to want to put them on we would sometimes find them either nailed to the wall or the floor.

I myself considered Mr Prince to be a kind hearted person. He never struck me, and I believe he did not like striking others, only under great provocation, and he received plenty of it. He had read much, and was a good reciter; when things were going on smoothly he would walk up and down the room reciting his favourite pieces, and appeared to be in his glory, and oblivious to all surrounding objects. Mr Prince left Mr Higson's mill to go and be an overlooker at the Travis Brook Mill, where he was employed many years. The last I heard of him he was travelling for some mercantile firm.

Reminiscences of Mr Higson's mill will be continued in my next paper.

Stockport.

J. GREENHALGH

#### JUDGE BRADSHAW AND MILTON'S VISITS TO CHESHIRE.

Marple Hall, the greater part of which was erected about the middle of the 17th century, is one of the most interesting specimens of domestic architecture the county contains, and when approached from Stockport bursts most agreeably on the eye, seated on the edge of a hill, with woods and the romantic stream of the Goyt below it, and raising its front of dark stone over numerous surrounding stables and offices. The principal front is within a square court and was originally finished with gables, bay windows and a tower over the entrance, which opens to a hall forty feet long and twenty feet wide, lighted at each end by long low mullioned windows. It contains some fine old oak furniture, and against the walls are disposed suits of mail, morions, corselets, and instruments of war, that have no doubt done duty in many a well-fought field. On the left of the entrance is a library, twenty feet square, lighted on the south side by a mullioned window filled with stained glass, and having the armorial ensigns of the Bradshaws and their alliances carved upon the wainscot. On the same floor and adjoining the library is the dining room, a spacious apartment thirty feet by twenty feet, with an oriel window at the north end, commanding an extensive view over the valley of the Goyt and the surrounding country. The walls of this room are

hung with portraits, several of them from Arderne Hall, said to have once belonged to the Alvanley family. Near to the front entrance is a broad oaken staircase, with decorated balustrades and hung with armorial paintings, plans, and family portraits, and leading to small but numerous apartments. The dining room contains a portrait of one of the Dones of Utkinton and his wife *temp.* Elizabeth; also others of the Earls of Essex and Leicester, Roger Anchem, General Monk, Sir Harry Vane, and Queen Elizabeth (on panel), and two ladies unknown. The ante-room leading to the drawing-room is oak-pannelled with small painted shields of arms, and has a stone fireplace with the Bradshaw arms and the date 1665. The drawing-room is hung with two fine pieces of old French tapestry representing Diana and her Nymphs and Time and Pleasure and having a crown and the letters LL interwoven into it. There are also three pieces of sculpture after Thorwaldsen. In one of the bedrooms is an old oak bedstead which came from Wibberley Hall, and in another an oak bedstead round the outside of which is carved in bold capitals the following admonitory sentences:

He that is unmerciful mercy shall miss,  
But he shall have mercy who merciful is.

On the inside is carved the following:

Love God, not gold. Sleep not until U consider how  
U have spent the time: If well thank God, if not repent.

On two panels on either side of the fireplace in this bedroom are painted several mottoes, whilst other mottoes are to be found painted on the windows. A flight of circular steps leads from one of the rooms to the drawing-room, which is immediately over the dining-room and corresponding with it in dimensions. It contains some family and other portraits.

The interest attaching to Marple Hall lies in its association with Judge Bradshaw, the intimate friend of Milton. There were a succession of Henry Bradshaws; and the family of Colonel Henry, the father of the Judge, and their position towards each other, is best remembered by a verse afterwards made in the Judge's name:—

My brother Henry must heir the land;  
My brother Frank must be at his command;  
Whilst I, poor Jack, shall do that  
Which all the world will wonder at.

It is not unlikely that Milton was acquainted with this hall; and some, who have loved to dwell upon the pretty view which it presents from the valley below have pleased themselves in thinking that it was the eminence alluded to in the *L'Allegro*, when the poet, referring to the scene before his eye, says:—

Towers and battlements it sees  
Booem'd high in lofty trees,  
Where perchance some beauty lies,  
The cynosure of neighbouring eyes.

There are intimations in the early life of Milton that he knew Cheshire, and Dr. Masson says that he may have visited Lancashire. In the former county his old schoolmate at St. Paul's, Charles Diodati (nephew of the famous divine of that name), was practising medicine; but Milton's intercourse with the district has well nigh been lost, and his friend died in 1638. One of Milton's letters specially refers to a communication which he had received from Diodati "from the western shore of Chester's Dee." In that district the poet indeed may, when visiting his friend, have met with a Cheshire lady, Jane, daughter of Thomas, Viscount Savage, of Rock Savage, one of the most beautiful and accomplished women of her time, who, within a year after her marriage to the Marquis of Winchester, died April 1631, aged 23, under affecting circumstances, just at the time when it was said she was about to become a Protestant. Milton's well-known tribute to her memory was as follows:—

Gentle lady, may thy grave peace and quiet ever have;  
After this thy travail sore, sweet rest seize thee evermore.  
Here, beside the sorrowing that thy noble house doth bring,  
Here be tears of perfect moan wept for thee in Helicon,  
And some flowers and some bays, for thy hearse to strew the ways,  
Sent thee from the banks of Came, devoted to thy virtuous name.

The masque of *Cornus* at Ludlow Castle might also have brought Milton to these regions. A copy of one of Milton's books at Worsley Hall has a Latin inscription, "The author worthy of the fork, the book of the flame." The relation between the judge and the poet was very close; the former in 1654 bequeathed £10 "to Mr John Milton." The Free Library copy of the *Defensio secunda pro Populo Anglicano*, octavo, 1654, was, by the kindness of Mr C. W. Sutton, here handed round to the members, containing at page 106 the noticeable reference, in grave and emphatic language, to "*Johannes Bradscianus*, nobili familia, ut satis notum est, ortus"—"a name consecrated by Liberty to immortal renown in every country where her power is acknowledged." In this eloquent tribute to the career of his friend, Milton exhibits much familiarity with his private as well as his public character. "In domestic life to his utmost power he is hospitable and splendid; amidst all the vicissitudes of fortune a friend most faithful and firm; instant and eager to acknowledge merit wherever it is discovered, as well as most munificent to reward it. The pious, the learned, the eminent, in every walk of genius, the soldier, and the hero, are either relieved by his wealth, if in distress, or, if otherwise, are cherished by his kind attentions and regard." Bradshaw's character has been deeply coloured by his connection with that trial of the King, when he presided over the court "with all the pride, implousness, and superciliousness imaginable" (Clarendon). Such books as the *History of the King Killers*, and the "poor, little, brown, lying



*Flayellum*," present him in the blackest light. Yet his republicanism was as staunch as that of Milton, and was evidenced by his protest to Cromwell, 20th April, 1653, when that Dictator dissolved the Long Parliament. "No power under heaven," said he, "could dissolve them but themselves; therefore take you notice of that!" It was unfortunate that but very few personal papers or memoirs were left to indicate Bradshaw's true character and to guide the critic to an accurate delineation of it. But there is an exception in the case of his will, dated 22nd March, 1653-4, which indirectly tells much of his springs of action. Mr Bailey here exhibited an old copy of Bradshaw's will. The exordium, he said, was very striking, and seemed to caution us against too readily believing what is often said, that this portion of the ancient wills was copied from forms or models in books of precedents. The gravest moment of a man's life, when he is called upon to review his relations to his Maker, his family, and friends, is not a moment when he stands in need of borrowed language; for his feelings prompt the sentiments of his heart. The opening sentences in these old testaments often express the spirit and philosophy of a man's life. "In the name of God. Amen. I, John Bradshaw, Serjeant-at-Law, and Chief Justice of Chester, being in good health and perfect memory, praised be God, yet sensible of the uncertainty of this frail life, find it fitt and convenient, having through grace this opportunitie lent mee to make and declare my last will and testament. First, I bequeath my soule to Almighty God, trusting—through faith in the blood of his Son my Saviour—to be made partaker of everlasting life, and that my sinnes being graciously pardoned I shall appeare clothed in the righteousness of Christ my elder Brother, to whom, with the Father and Blessed Spirit, be glory and prayse for ever. My body I commend to the earth to be interred in decent and Christian buriall at the discretion of my executor if I dye neare her, otherwise of such servants as shal be about mee, without observing the vanitie of any funerall pompe." The will is chiefly concerned with the administration of the large property which the testator had acquired in the counties of Middlesex and Kent from the confiscated estates of the Royalists. The spirit of the document shows that he was a just and benevolent man. He had been brought up at Middleton School, near Manchester, the foundation of the famous Dean Nowell, whose brother Robert, attorney of the Court of Wards, had said to him about six hours before he died, "Forget not Middleton School, where we and our brethren were brought up in our childhood;" and that good man endowed it. Bradshaw was bountiful to this foundation, as well as to that at Bunbury, Cheshire, where also part of his education was received. His interest in Marple was also manifested, evidencing a close intimacy with this hall. He devoted the huge

sum of £700 to maintain a free school at this village. None of these bequests were, however, carried out, owing to his property at the Restoration reverting to its former possessors. There are enumerated in the will many gifts to his servants, of whom, as a public official, he had a large number. The concluding passage is very noticeable, being an earnest and touching encouragement to his wife (Mary, daughter of one of the Marburys of Marbury, Cheshire), who he very tenderly loved. The Judge had some presentiment when he penned the will that his departure would precede hers; and he introduces that grand familiar description of the Almighty in Isaiah as the Guardian, from generation to generation, of the families of the just:—"I do lastly make my said well-beloved and dear wife my sole executor of this my last will and testament, desiring her to put her trust in Him who is the End of ages, and will be a husband that cannot be taken away." He died at Westminster Deanery in Oct., 1658, and he was buried in the Abbey. His heir was his nephew Henry, son of Colonel Henry (1601-1653), who lived 1635-1698, chief mourner at the funeral; and he had a special bequest of the Judge's law-books of such divinity, history, and other books as the executrix should judge fittest for him. Milton's reminiscences of the county of Chester were renewed when in 1663 he married, for his third wife, Elizabeth, "daughter of Mr Minshull of Cheshire." Mr Fitchett Marsh was the first to show that she was the daughter of Randle Minshull, a yeoman farmer of Wistaston and Nantwich, being born at the former place, and baptized there 30th December, 1638. Seven years after the death of Milton she returned from London to Nantwich, and died in 1727.

Stretford.

J. BOLINGTON BAILEY.

#### A TOUR THROUGH CHESHIRE A CENTURY AGO.

We extract the following letter from a tour made by a gentleman from London to the Lakes during the summer of 1791:—

Talk-on-the-Hill displays the whole county of Cheshire like a flat wood beneath our feet. The Lancashire mountains on the right, and those of Wales on the left, bound the plain. This view is more extensive than beautiful; neither town, village, nor house break the uniformity of this scene; indeed, the counties of Chester and Lancaster seem the last part of Britain that "rose out of the azure main;" and accordingly the soil in both is but a thin sward spread over a bed of sea-sand. We are indebted to this sand, however, and the superabundant rain that keeps it always moist, for the finest cheese in the world. Why then should we repine at the moist atmosphere that covers our island? Were we in the moon, our telescopes would show us that this island is not

green than any spot on the face of the earth. This verdure we owe to rain; in consequence our horses, cattle, sheep (nay, I am proud to say the human animal), exceed those of any other country.

Indeed, these two counties seem to have more than their share of this useful element; for the mountains that separate them from Yorkshire stop the western clouds from the Atlantic Ocean, and by rain-gauges it is found that at least one-third more rain falls in Lancashire than Yorkshire (surface for surface) upon an average made from many years' observation. The breed of horned cattle of Cheshire, however, are much inferior to those of Lancashire, though they produce better cheese. A cow at best is but an unwieldy and clumsy animal; but in Lancashire she has wide serpentine horns—a belly as light as a horse—beautifully spotted, or uniformly streaked from the back-bone on each side; in short, a Lancashire cow may really be called a beautiful animal.

It would be well if a traveller could sleep during his passage through Cheshire, but that the rough paved road effectually forbids. He will be in some measure rewarded for his fatigue, if he makes a digression by Middlewich, and has courage to descend into the salt mines. A stratum of salt rock will there astonish him about sixty yards beneath the surface, of unknown extent, that, excepting some earthly and other heterogeneous matter mixed with it, may be considered as a bed of real marine or table salt.

Water issuing through this bed dissolves the salts, and becomes a brine of great strength, is drawn up to the surface, and after evaporation becomes the fine crystalline basket salt of the table. The rock itself is also a great commercial object, being sent to Liverpool in huge blocks, where it serves as ballast to returning ships, instead of stones; and as it dissolves in sea water, it makes it a brine capable of yielding twice the quantity of salt the water would without it—being saleable in every seaport in Europe.

It is used as ballast from Liverpool. These back carriages give this port a decided preference over others in the kingdom; besides, its situation in the country by canal and its fortuitous advantages from the spirit of enterprise in making it made a more rapid progress than any other part of the county capital.

On near the road leading to the farms and wooden houses, remember forty years ago.

When we cross the Grand Junction, where it enters and passes the river which separates Cheshire from

Staffordshire. This tunnel I did not explore, but was told it was above a mile in length, arched all round.

Knutsford is a pretty little town, and has a great many handsome seats in its neighbourhood, but picturesque beauty must not be looked for in a flat country—the views can but extend over a few fields, being intercepted by dwarf oaks which stand thick in the fences, and make the country look like one great wood. The late Lord Warrington, however, planted some millions of oaks in his estate of Dunham Massey, that have made such a progress in growth during the last fifty years that may soon be large enough to run into the sea, and be a noble addition to our naval strength.

The silk mills of this place, Macclesfield, &c., are principally converted into cotton mills, that material having so far taken the lead of silk in the fashion of the present time; but it is impossible so many mills should find employment for any length of time, for there is scarcely a stream that will turn a wheel through the North of England that has not a cotton mill upon it. At present they are fully employed, and long may they continue so—but this I much fear.

At Warrington we enter Lancashire, the county of industry and spirit. This town has long been famous for its manufactory of sail-cloth, but boasts no great beauty in either building or situation. Its damp situation is indicated by vast poplar trees, that aquatic which delights in bogs and ditches.

The progress of improvement in the high roads of this country affords matter for curiosity. For many ages, and to the middle of this century, a causeway of above two feet broad, paved with round pebbles, was all that man or horse could travel upon, particularly in the winter season, through both these counties. This causeway was guarded by posts at a proper distance to keep carts off it, and the open part of the road was generally impassable in the winter from the miry deep ruts.

As trade increased, and turnpikes became general, the ruts were filled with pebbles and cinders; but still in winter no coach or chaise durst venture through them. Indictments and lawsuits at last produced a broad pavement, which would suffer two carriages to pass each other, and this was thought the ultimate perfection that a country without gravel could go to, and the narrow pavement became covered with grass. In this state the roads have continued many years, to the great profit of the coach-maker and the cure of indigestion; but now both the broad and narrow pavements are pulling up, the pebbles breaking into small pieces, and their interstices filling up with sand. So far as this method has proceeded, the roads are become as good as in any part of England; and no doubt the utility will soon become general, enforced by so spirited and liberal a people as inhabit these counties.

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poor, little, brown, lying

The spirit of ancient hospitality lingered in the county of Chester long after it had forsaken the rest of the kingdom; the open manly character of our forefathers is still visible here. For many of the numerous old families of this country were attached to the Stuart family, and for two reigns never came near the court. Living therefore on their own estates, cultivating good neighbourhood, regaling after a fatiguing fox-chase on strong ale, roast beef, and toasted cheese, and meeting with much good humour at a neighbouring bowling-green, constituted their routine of amusement, ere politeness, self, and heavy taxes crept in among them. Happy times, and happy people! Your country associates in my mind the many jolly days I have formerly spent among you. S.S.

#### EPITAPHS.

The following epitaph is to be seen in Noarthoe Churchyard, North Devon:—

Seventy-8 years I've past this life  
In honest upright ways,  
Free from vexation, fear and strife,  
I've finished my days.

In the churchyard of Southwell:—

Jno. Adams lies here, in the parish of Southwell;  
A carrier, who carried his can to his mouth well;  
He carried so long and he carried so fast,  
And he carried so much,  
That he is carried at last;  
For the liquors he drank, being too much for one,  
He could not carry off;  
So he is now carried on.

The following is to be found at Burrington, Somerset:—

Madam Ellis: Jones  
Wife of John Jones Esqr  
of this Parish, who dyed  
Sep 14 : 1713  
Ætatis Suse 29.

Underneath this stone doth lye  
As much virtue as could dye,  
Which, when alive, did vigour give,  
To as much sweetness as could live.

In Caius Parish Churchyard, Worcestershire:—

O, mortal man, of every act beware,  
For one false step will make an age of care;  
Your credit keep, 'tis quickly gone,  
Though gained by many actions,  
Can be lost by one.

#### ON A BLACKSMITH.

His sledge and hammer he has declined,  
His bellows it has lost its wind;  
His fire's extinct,  
His forge decayed,  
And in the dust his vice is laid.  
His coals are spent,  
His iron is gone,

His nails are drove,  
And his work is done.

#### A STARTLING INSCRIPTION.

The *Leeds Mercury* is responsible for the following:—  
A North of England merchant having lost his wife by death, ordered a sculptor to erect a handsome marble monument over her grave. On visiting the cemetery a week or two later the merchant found that his instructions had been complied with. But on reading the inscription he was surprised to see the remains described as those of "Sarah Angelina Smith, aged 187." In hot haste and hot temper he rushed down to the sculptor. What in the Elysian fields (or words to that effect) made you put my wife's age down as 187? Didn't I tell you that she was only 37? "Yes," replied the sculptor, "that is so, but you see, as I was putting a specially fine monument up, I thought it would sort of call attention to it if I put something out of the common on it. The funny epitaph business is played out, but centenarians are fashionable just now, and as I thought you'd like people to see that you'd done the fair thing by your wife, I thought you wouldn't mind having something startling put on the inscription to attract attention. We're doing it for all the better class of gravestones." The merchant was convinced, and the inscription remained. And that is how it happens that so many centenarians have been heard of lately.

Wilmalaw.

J. G.

## Queries.

ARMS IN CHESTER CASTLE.—In a 17th century MS. occur the following arms, then existing in the chapel of the above castle. To what families did they belong?

1. *Ary.* a saltire, a chief *az.*
2. *Gw.* on a bend *az.* five plates *ary.*
3. Barry of six, *ary.* and *az.*, a label of five points, *az.*
4. *Az.* three bends, a canton, *er.*

Chester.

(L)

SIR WILLIAM BRERETON.—In the "Booke of the names of members of the House of Commons that advance Horse, Money, and Plate for Defence of the Parliament, June 10th, 11th, &c., 1642," occurs the entry that "Sir Wm. Brereton will bringe in fower horses, and send them up as speedily as hee can, and bring in an hundred pounds in ready money or plate." I am fairly acquainted with his actions in the subsequent civil war, but I should like to learn how far he carried out this promise, and what amount of fortune he lost and won in that terrible period.

Chester.

(L)

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1886.

## Notes.

### THE TATTONS OF WYTHENSHAW.

The earliest reference to Wythenshawe is contained in two charters, dated the 10th Edw. II. (1216), at which time it appears to have been in the possession of THOMAS DE MASCY. In 1370, Alice, the only daughter and heiress of William de Massey, the younger, granted her lands, &c., at Wythenshawe, to ROBERT DE TATTON of KENWORTHLEY. She is supposed to have become the wife of this Robert de Tatton, though there is no direct evidence to support this supposition. The family of DE TATTON had been connected with the neighbourhood, at an earlier date than this, for a ROBERT DE TATTON, grandfather of the Robert above mentioned, had a grant of lands at Northenden, in the same parish, in 1297. From the year 1370 Wythenshawe passed in the direct male line of the Tatton family until the death of Robert Tatton, in February, 1689-90, *s.p.*, when it descended to his cousin, WILLIAM TATTON. The son of William Tatton married Hester Egerton, who, on the death of her brother, Samuel Egerton, M.P., of Tatton Park, became heiress of his extensive estates. She assumed for herself and her issue, by Royal licence, the name and arms of Egerton. Her eldest surviving son, WILBRAHAM EGERTON, succeeded to the Tatton estates, and became the ancestor of the present Lord Egerton of Tatton. Her second son resumed the name of Tatton, by Royal licence, in 1806, and, as THOMAS WILLIAM TATTON, inherited the Wythenshawe estate. Such is shortly the history of the Tatton family of Wythenshawe.

We may now proceed to consider a few particulars relating to individual members of the family.

NICHOLAS DE TATTON is described in 1541 as "Baron of the Exchequer of Chester," an office of some importance, which appears to have been hereditary in the family for several generations.

ROBERT TATTON seems to have been the first to have fixed his abode permanently at Wythenshawe, and he was probably the builder of the more ancient part of the present hall about the year 1540. In 1545 he was appointed one of the Royal Commissioners to inquire into the history and endowments of the Chantries, in Lancashire (see the account published by the Chetham Society), and in 1548 he was commissioner to inquire into the "ornaments, plate, jewels, and bells belonging to every church or chapel within the countie of Chester," and together with Sir Edward Warren, Knt., and Sir Edmund Savage, Knt., he signed the return for the

Macclesfield Hundred. He is described by Edward, Earl of Derby, in 1557, as being "very evil at ease," but ready, nevertheless, to furnish an able captain, and, with others, a hundred soldiers for the Queen's service. He would seem to have been a man of great firmness of character, and is named by a contemporary as one who "regardeth not the forfeiture of any lands, nor obeyeth any auctorytie or orders." He married in 1539 Dorothy, fourth daughter of George Booth, of Dunham Massey, and by her had a family of seven sons and four daughters. He died June 18th. 1579, and was buried in the north chapel of Northenden Church. A large brass to his memory formerly existed in the church, but has long since disappeared, probably during the civil war. It depicted Robert Tatton in a long furred gown, his wife Dorothy in a ruff, a kirtle with puffed sleeves, and wearing a large hat. Their seven sons and four daughters were represented kneeling below them, the sons on the left hand, the daughters on the right. Below this group is the figure of a human skeleton lying at length, with the words *Respice finem* (take heed to your end). Round the sides of the tomb was the following inscription, in Latin:—"Pray for the souls of Robert Tatton, Esq., and Dorothy, his wife, daughter of George Booth, son of Sir William Booth, Knt., the which Robert died the 18th day of June, in the year of our Lord 1579, on whose souls may God be merciful." Of this brass there is a rude sketch by one of the Randle Holmes, now preserved in the British Museum (Harl MSS.), which was drawn in 1580, the year after it was placed in the church. A copy of it will be found in Mr Earwaker's "East Cheshire." His long and elaborate will, dated December 10th, 1578, with inventory, is printed in the volume of Lancashire and Cheshire wills published by the Chetham Society. He entered his pedigree at the visitation of Cheshire, 1566. Of the great grandson of Robert Tatton—William Tatton, of Wythenshawe—who was in the thirty-second year of his age when he came to his untimely end, the following is recorded in the parish register:—"Januarie, 1616. Upon the viij daye of this month did befall the most lamentable accident upon the Right Worshipfull William Tatton of Withenshawe, Esquiere, who was drowned in the river of Mercie, betweene the haven and the milne weare at Northenden, betwixt the houres of viij and viij a clocke at night, and his bodie was found upon the xiiij daye of the same month beneth the weare, about ij a clocke in the afternoone, and was buried upon the xv daye of the same month, about iij a clocke in the afternoone."

Robert Tatton, who was a minor at the time of his father's death, became a ward of the King Charles I

At the outbreak of the civil war he espoused the Royalist side, and at an early period incurred the active hostility of the Parliamentary commanders. In 1643 Wythenshawe was besieged by the Parliamentary forces, under Colonel Robert Duckenfield. Two pieces of ordnance were brought from Manchester for use against it. In Burghall's diary (MS. British Museum, but twice inaccurately printed) the siege is thus referred to: "On Sunday, February 25 [1643-4] Mr Tatton, of Whittenshaw's house, was taken by the Parliament forces, who had laid a long siege to it; there were only Mr Tatton, some few gentlemen, and but a few soldiers, who had quarter for life; the ammunition was but little." Further interesting details are to be found in the State papers at the Record Office, from which it appears that from November, 1642, to February, 1643-4, the house had been kept more or less in a state of defence by Mr Tatton to "preserve the house and his goods from spoyle and plunder of all parties whatsoever." In the final siege in the counties of 1643-4 were Thomas Mallory, clerke (the ejected rector of Northenden), Robert and Richard Twyford (the latter of Didsbury, and brother-in-law to Mr Tatton), Henry Pendleton, of Manchester, Edward Carter, clerke, and William Carter, the late organist at Manchester, Edward Legh, of Baguley, Mr Richard Vawdrey, Mr John Bretland and his man, fourteen men of Northenden, four of Baguley, three of Gatley, two of Etchells, three of Didsbury, and near a score others from various neighbouring villages. In the last century six skeletons were found lying close together in the garden, which were supposed to have been the remains of soldiers who were killed during the siege. There is a tradition that one of the Parliamentary officers who had exposed himself by sitting on a wall was killed by one of the maidservants, who begged to be allowed to fire at him. The death of an officer during the siege is confirmed by the following entry in the Stockport registers:—"Captayne Adams, s'ayne at Withenshawe on Sonday the 25th, was buried the 27th day of February, 1643-4."

After the loss of his ancestral home Mr Tatten continued to serve the King, being present during the whole of the memorable siege of Chester till the capitulation in February, 1645-6. From here he followed the King to Oxford, when the city surrendered to the Parliamentary forces on June 24th, 1646. His name appears amongst those who were entitled to the benefit of certain privileges allowed to the Royalists. His estates were of course sequestered by the Parliament, but he was allowed to compound on payment of a fine of a tenth, estimated at £804 10s, subsequently reduced to £707 13s 4d. He survived these troublous times, and died 19th August, 1669, and was buried at Northenden. His son and heir, William Tatton, also suffered in the Royal cause, being one of

the prisoners captured at the defeat of the celebrated *Cheshire Rising* in 1659.

Wythenshawe is described by Mr Henry Taylor, in his excellent work on the "Old Halls of Lancashire and Cheshire," as a long, rambling, picturesque house of many gables, following generally in its plan the type of Gothic manor houses prevailing in the time of Henry VIII. It was originally fortified with a moat, which is now filled up. The most ancient part of the building is the central portion, containing the great hall, measuring about 37 feet by 23 feet. The high table would be placed across the southern end of the room. At the opposite end stood the screens, now removed, but the position is marked by the masonry for the posts in the beam overhead. In the south-east corner is the usual bay, square in form on the plan. The withdrawing room, like that at Bramhall, is contiguous to the great hall, and follows in plan its general line. The erection or remodelling of these apartments belongs to a period (Henry VIII. to Elizabeth) when the importance of the great hall was on the decline and that of the withdrawing room was increasing, and their relative dimensions and style of ornamentation in these two instances afford an interesting illustration of the change which took place in the habits of our forefathers during the sixteenth century. The walls of the withdrawing room are covered with richly moulded oak panelling of the Elizabethan period, which is remarkable for the great beauty and variety of the inlay patterns with which its panels are decorated. In the west wall of the withdrawing room is a patch of more modern panelling, showing where a cannon ball had passed through the house during the siege. In a bird's-eye view of the house and premises given on a map made in 1641 by Richard Martin, a copy of which we have, by the courtesy of Mr Tatton, been allowed to see to-day, a detached building is shown to the south of the mansion, which, judging from the pointed character of its north doorway, may possibly have been the chapel. From this view it also appears that there was formerly a detached two-storied gatehouse resembling in its position that at Kenyon Hall.

Wythenshawe is one of the few estates in the extensive Hundred of Macclesfield which from the middle of the fourteenth century has been handed down from one generation to another of the same family, and, as the record shows, its successive owners have been true English gentlemen, loyal to the Crown, living on their own estate, and ever mindful to promote the well-being of their dependents and neighbours.

Fallowfield.

J. HOLME NICHOLS.

CHESHIRE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND FOR THE DEFENCE OF ENGLAND AT THE TIME OF THE SPANISH INVASION IN 1588.

"Of the reigns of all the sovereigns of England the

Queen Elizabeth is undoubtedly the most momentous. The manners and customs, progresses and pageantry of that half-century of English history; the remarkable men and women who lived in it; the continuous succession of eventful matters, not only of domestic, but political import, have caused the reign of Elizabeth Tudor to be made the study of all classes of society, historians, and critics. And certainly the most noteworthy incident, the most momentous event in the annals of a country, was the invasion of England by the Spanish fleet in the year of our Lord 1588." So writes Mr T. C. Noble in introduction to the names of those persons who described towards the defence of this country at the time of the Spanish Armada, 1588. The fate of the Armada is recorded in history, but to quote the words of Sir Henry Ellis, the chief librarian of the British Museum forty years ago, "There are many persons of high historical interest preserved in our manuscript repositories which have not yet seen the light of a later day to explain all the circumstances attending the formation and defeat of the Spanish Armada." The land forces for the defence of our shores numbered 132,689, 24,000 of these being stationed under the Earl of Leicester at Tilbury. Here the Queen is invited by the favourite Earl to spend two or three days in "Yor pore Lyvetenants cabin," and so make gladd many thousandes both here and not farr off." Accordingly, on August 5, 1588, the Queen visited Tilbury, and it is a remarkable fact that at the very time Her Majesty was addressing the troops, and exhorting them on to victory, the Invincible Armada had been defeated at least a week (July 28 o.s.) not a hundred miles from where she was, and some of the English vessels had returned home! The following is the list of Cheshire men who contributed to the defence fund as given in Mr Noble's book quoted above:—

THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEFENCE OF THIS COUNTRY AT THE TIME OF THE SPANISH INVASION IN 1588.

CESHIRE.

	£.
<i>Ab.</i> Peter Warburton, Armiger 18 Februarii .....	21
Thomas Leigh, of High Leigh, Armiger 24 Februarii .....	50
John Leigh, of Boothe, Armiger 31 Februarii (?) .....	25
Thomas Tutchett, Armiger 21 Februarii .....	25
Thomas Leigh, of Adlington, Arm. 21 Februarii .....	25
Henrie Berkenhead, Armiger 14 Februarii .....	25
Richard Gravnor, Armiger 25 Februarii .....	25
Sir William Brereton, Miles eodem .....	100
Phillip Oldefield, 27 Februarii .....	25
The Ladie Egerton, 20 Februarii .....	50
Thomas Wilbram, Armiger 15 die Februarii .....	25
<i>Arch.</i> George Booth, Armiger 11 Marcii .....	25
Randall Manwering, of Peever, Armiger 9 Marcii .....	25
John Dutton, Armiger secundo die Marcii .....	25
Thomas Aston, Armiger quarto die Marcii .....	25

William Marbury, of Meare, Armiger primo die Marcii .....	25
Adam Leicester, Armiger 11 Marcii .....	25
Sir Peter Leigh, Miles 16 Marcii .....	100
William Brereton, of Handford, Armiger 16 Marcii .....	25
William Davenport, of Bromhall, Armiger 19 Marcii .....	25
Thomas Standley, of Alderley, Armiger quarto die Marcii .....	25
Randall Davenport, of Henbry, Armiger 14 Marcii .....	25
William Duckensfield, Armiger 17 Marcii .....	25
Naphe Harden, Armiger eodem .....	25
Rodert Hid, of Norbry, Armiger 13 Marcii .....	25
Sir Randall Brereton, Miles 6 Marcii .....	50
Hugh Calverley, of Ley, Armiger 27 Marcii .....	50
Rowland Dutton, Armiger 17 Marcii .....	25
Ralph Calveley, Armiger 11 Marcii .....	25
The Ladie Boothe tercio die Marcii .....	25
The Ladie Warburton eodem .....	25
Henrie Manwering, Armiger quarto die Marcii .....	25
Geffrey Shakerley, Armiger 9 die Marcii .....	25
Sir Rowland Standeley, Miles 7 Marcii .....	100
George Massey sexto die Marcii .....	25
John Poole, Armiger 9 die Marcii .....	25
Thomas Bunburie, Armiger primo die Marcii .....	25
William Whitmore, Armiger tercio die Marcii .....	25
John Egerton, Armiger 22 Marcii .....	25
John Browne, of Stapleford quarto die Marcii .....	25
Henrie Delves, Armiger 24 Marcii .....	25
Richard Cotton, Armiger 17 Marcii .....	25
Thomas Vernon, Armiger 13 Marcii .....	25
Jo. Griffith, Armiger 25 Marcii .....	25
Roger Manwering 17 Marcii .....	25
Richard Wilbram eodem die .....	25
Richard Church eodem .....	25
Geffrie Minshall eodem .....	25
<i>April.</i> Thomas Brooke, Armiger 9 die Aprilis .....	25
Thomas Venables, Armiger 11 die Aprilis .....	25
<i>Maye.</i> Tho. Smithe, Armiger 25 die Maii .....	25

Manchester.

HENRY GRAY.

## Queries.

THE POYNTON MURDER IN 1848.—Sir,—Can any of your readers inform me where I can find full particulars of the murder of Thomas Wyatt, who was shot in 1848 somewhere near Blake Wood in Poynton? Was anything published about it in book or pamphlet form?

INQUIRER.

Ashton-under-Lyne

BARRACK HILL, BREDBURY.—Can some contributor to *Cheshire Notes and Queries* give any information as to the origin of the name Barrack Hill, in the Bredbury township? One would suppose that at some period in its history it was the rendezvous for soldiery during the time of war—probably the Civil War of 1640-5.

Bredbury.

TYNO.

SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1886.

## Notes.

## COST OF LIVING IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Before the construction of railways, (and still more conspicuously before John Loudon Macadam, early in the century had rendered it possible by his invention of an improved method of making roads, or vehicles to travel the great highways with safety and celerity,) the prices of commodities varied greatly in different parts of the country. In remote districts the prices of farm produce were greatly below those in the great centres of population, whilst the cost of such commodities as were usually obtained from the towns was greatly enhanced. In many places the difficulty experienced in the transport of coals was so great as to prohibit their use except by the more wealthy classes. The introduction of the inland navigation, or canal system, did something to equalise the prices, the improved roads effected still more, and the network of railways of recent construction has led to the prices becoming more uniform throughout England, than they formerly were within the compass of a single county. Indeed the intercommunication both on sea and land has become so universal that the difference in prices between one country and another has greatly lessened, and the movement in the direction of equalisation will probably continue in the future. Fiscal interference must however continue to exert a baneful influence as long as it is indulged in.

To compare the cost of living in one country with that in another would be an interesting inquiry, but a close examination would be difficult, if not impossible; and all that that can be done will be to institute a comparison between the prices of articles of general use in most countries. The price selected must be that paid by the consumer; wholesale prices would greatly mislead; as the profits secured by the distributors vary considerably in different countries. Where competition is severe, expenses light, taxation not excessive, and the rate of wages low, the distributor accepts a moderate profit; whilst in newly-settled and underpopulated countries, where labour is more highly remunerated, the profit of the retailer is usually large. The incidence of indirect taxation affects the price of certain articles; in England no tax is laid upon sugar, but alcohol and tobacco bear heavy imposts. This condition is inverted in many

countries on the continent, so we find in England cheap sugar with dear wine and cigars, whilst elsewhere the reverse obtains. In France the price of articles of food are slightly raised in the town by the imposition of an *octroi* duty. The retail prices of commodities are affected by the duties imposed upon them to an extent greater than the amount of duty, for the grocer will not advance one part of the price of the coffee and sugar to the merchant and another part as a customs duty to the Government without exacting a profit on both portions. But when instituting a general comparison the effect of taxation, here imposed solely for the purpose of revenue, is less apparent than might have been expected. Taxes must be paid "either in meal or malt." Indirect taxation is general, and if certain commodities escape, others are burdened. The endeavour to ascertain the comparative rental of houses had to be abandoned, as it proved impossible to institute a fair basis of comparison. Indeed the comparison could not be made in England alone with any approach to accuracy. The prosperity, or otherwise, of any town affects the rentals greatly; and indeed two houses in the same town, similar in all respects, except in the situation they occupy, are frequently let for rentals which differ very widely.

It was thought best for the purposes of comparison to avoid small villages, and generally to prefer provincial towns to the capital. It was also decided to avoid fashionable shops, and to select those most frequented by the mass of the people. The time selected was Feb. 15th, 1886; and for the standard for England, well-frequented shops in the town of Stockport were chosen at which to purchase the various commodities. A series of questions was drawn up, and samples of the sugars, rice, calico, flannel, &c., were sent with the questions, to correspondents in various countries, who it was thought would be willing, and were known to be competent, to make the investigations with sufficient care. To H. B. M. Consuls and to the heads of departments in some of the colonies application was made, and in nearly all cases the most generous and ready assistance has been given. To each person who has been so good as to contribute to the information now collected and digested, the thanks not only of the writer are due, and are gratefully given, but also of many persons who take a scientific interest in economical questions of this

nature, as well as of those of a wider circle of readers who, either on their own account or on that of their friends, are interested in the cost of living in other places than the land of their birth.

In the following table the countries selected for comparison are arranged nearly in the order of their distances from England. The names of the towns at which the purchases were made are appended.

CLOTHING.

	One yard of bleached calico to sample.	One yd. of flannel to sample.	Weekly expenditure.	Relative prices.
	Pence.	Pence.	Pence.	
England, Stockport .....	5	15	165	100
Ajijining Islands, Ramsey	5	16	168	102
France, Rouen .....	6	15	189	115
Spain, Barcelona.....	6½	29	243	147
Portugal, Oporto.....	5	28½	206	124
Italy, Padua.....	5	18	174	105
Switzerland, Neuchatel.....	5½	15	177	107
Germany, Baden, Heidelberg	6	21	207	125
Germany, Saxony, Dresden	5½	21	195	118
Denmark, Veil: .....	6½	20	222	134
Holland, The Hague .....	6	18	193	120
Sweden, Stockholm .....	6	15	149	116
Austro-Hungary, Salzburg	6	17	195	118
Russia, Moscow .....	5½	18 ?	177	103
Greece, Athens .....	7½	16	228	138
Servia, Belgrade.....	5½	18 ?	186	113
Algeria, Algiers .....	7½	17	237	144
Canada, Montreal .....	5	20	180	109
U. States, Pennsylvania, West Chester .....	5	17	171	104
U. States, Missouri, Kansas City .....	5	22	186	113
British W. Indies, Antigua				
Chili, Valparaiso.....	7½	35	285	173
India, Bombay, City of Poona .....	6½	15	195	118
South Australia, North Adelaide .....	5½	25	207	126
New Zealand, Napier.....	6	24	216	131

The first column of figures shows the price of a yard of bleached calico 33 inches wide, and equal in quality to a pattern sent; and the next column gives the price of a yard of flannel 28½ inches wide, of a quality similar to the pattern supplied for comparison. When the fabrics could not be matched they were valued, and frequently patterns of such qualities as are usually sold were returned with answers to the questions. The foreign measures and money have been converted into their English equivalents. The last column is intended to furnish a figure showing the relative price of textiles in the various countries, so far as they can

be judged by the prices of flannel and calico, and is arrived at in the following manner:—The proportion of cotton to woollen cloth generally used is taken to be as eight to one. The amount of money paid for eight yards of calico and one yard of flannel has been calculated for each of the countries from which the prices of both fabrics have been received. The figures obtained were then raised to their decimal equivalents, the English price being taken to represent 100. The tables may be read in this manner. A person in England who spends 100 shillings on such textiles would need to expend 109 shillings in



Canada, or 131 shillings in New Zealand; or to state it differently, he would need to spend 15 per cent. more in France and 4 per cent. more in Pennsylvania than in England. It is assumed that a family spends in textile materials for clothing and household use, weekly (on the average), as much money as would purchase five yards of flannel and forty yards of calico. This amount stated in pence is carried out in the column headed "weekly expenditure."

It is a fact of the greatest interest and importance that although there is considerable variety among the prices current in different places, the cheapest place on the world's surface for the purchase of these fabrics, and presumably of fabrics generally, is England. It must, however, be remembered that there are differences as between one shop and another in the same country, and even in the same town, and the matching and valuing a pattern are operations in which there is room for inaccuracy, and therefore too much importance must not be attached to the foregoing table *taken by itself*, but when taken in conjunction with those which follow the general results may be relied on with safety.

The following extract from a communication from the experienced gentleman, who furnishes the information from Valparaiso, should be considered with regard to the prices from Chili:—

I think the prices I have named are pretty accurate for the date you ask—viz, about the 15th February, but at the same time I must tell you that, owing to our fluctuating exchange, I doubt whether the data I send will be of any great use to you in your economical papers. For example, the English engine-drivers got their \$125 a month when exchange was 48d; and they get no more now, although at this moment exchange has fallen to the unprecedented and alarming rate of 21½d. The same remark applies to the price of gas.

The metal currency of this country is gold and silver—that is to say the double standard, and until the fall of silver took place in 1876 our exchange kept steady between 46d and 48d. When silver fell, however, our exchange followed suit, and rose and fell with silver until 1879, when the Government issued a forced paper currency to carry on the war with Peru. Since then we have had great fluctuations. For example, in April last year, exchange was 27d, and fell in August to 22½d. It rose again last December to 27d, but has now gone back to 21½d, so that it is very difficult to make a comparison of the cost of articles here as compared with the cost in England. If a shopkeeper had stock now which he had bought

wholesale when exchange was 27d he would probably sell it at a price which would leave him a positive loss if he had to replace it at 21½d exchange, but he often sells with the idea that exchange will improve, and that he will then lay in fresh stocks.

In brief, the wholesale price of articles that come from abroad and articles that can be exported rise and fall in price according to the exchange. Articles that are made in the country for home use and export have also been influenced to some extent, by the depreciation in exchange, but they have not risen in proportion with foreign manufactures, or native produce suitable for exportation. At present we are in a most uncertain state, as in two years' time our exchange might be at par (which at the present price of silver would be about 34d), or it might fall to 1½d, or even lower. Nobody can say.

The Government could easily return to specie payments, as the fixed paper currency only amounts to some £3,000,000, which they could raise in London at five per cent., their five per cent. bonds being at a premium, but the farmers and miners are opposed to raising exchange, as it would bring down in Chilean currency the price of their products. What has complicated matters is the fall during the last four years in copper and wheat, the former having gone down from £70 to £40 a ton, and the latter from about 4s to 3s a quarter.

The Government of the country is more than solvent, as the foreign debt only amounts to some £8,500,000, and the State railways alone give a net profit more than sufficient to pay the interest on that sum, to say nothing of the export duty on nitrate, which gives £1,000,000 a year, and which they take good care to recover in silver or its equivalent, the same as with the duties on imported goods. I should mention that the Government are rapidly paying off their foreign debt, so that in thirteen years from now they will only be owing some £600,000 if they keep on at the same rate as now. The internal debt, outside of the forced paper currency, is very small, and only requires some 500,000 dollars a year for interest.

The foregoing explanations may perhaps be superfluous for your requirements, but I did not like sending you the data you asked without them, as it is just possible your economical papers may be criticised hereafter by some one who knew Chili twelve years ago, and is unaware of the change that has taken place since then.

NOTE.—On the 15th February the exchange on London was 25d, so that for calculation you may reckon that the Chilean paper dollar was then worth just half of the gold dollar of the United States, a draft for 100 dollars gold on New York being worth 200 dollars Chilean currency. [All the prices for Chili have been calculated on the foregoing basis.]

The next table has reference to articles of food in general consumption. It is assumed that they are used in the following proportion :—30lb of bread, 15lb of potatoes,  $\frac{1}{2}$ lb of rice, 4lb of mutton, 4lb of beef, and 15 eggs ; and this quantity may not differ

widely from the weekly consumption of a family. The column of weekly expenditure shows the cost in pence of the foregoing quantities in the different countries. The relative prices are arrived at as in the preceding table.

FOOD.

	Good house- hold bread.	100 lb of potatoes.	1lb of me- dium rice.	Leg of mut- ton per lb.	Sirloin of beef per lb.	No. of eggs for	Weekly expenditure.	Relative prices.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	1s.	d.	
England...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	30	2	10	10	9	143	100
Ile of Man	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	25	3	8	9	12	126	88
France ...	1'3	47	3	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	136	95
Spain .....	2'1	30	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ k	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ k	10	167	130
Portugal...	2a	50	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	128	90
Italy .....	2b	70	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	20	143	100
Switzerland	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	29	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	8'2	68n	14	124	87
Baden .....	1'4c	29	3	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	129	90
Saxony ...	1'3	30	2'3	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	14	136	95
Denmark	1'8d	27	2'2	6	6	17	118	83
Holland ...	1'4	27	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	12	12	146	102
Sweden ...	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	1'6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6'4	15	132	93
Austria ...	2'1	28	3	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	21	150	105
Russia.....	1'6e	42A	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	121	85
Greece.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	48	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	6	12	116	81
Servia.....	1'f	90	2'4	3	3'3	21	79	55
Algeria ...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	87	2'6	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	15	141	99
Canada ...	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	30	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	145	101
Pennsylvania	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	60	4'2	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	7	185	129
Missouri...	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	54	5	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	182	127
British West Indies...	—	i	3	8	8	12	—	—
Chili .....	1'7g	48	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	10	10	160	112
Bombay ...	1'65	62	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5'1	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	26	131	92
S. Australia	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	59	3	5	7	12	119	83
New Zea- land ...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	35j	4	3m	4	12o	103	72

Indian corn bread consumed by the working class, 1d. per lb ; wheat bread for general consumption, 2d ; finest quality, chiefly for the English and foreigners, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Black bread, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Corn bread generally used, white bread, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Rye bread, 6d per lb.

Black bread, 6d per lb.

Probably not quite white.

Bread is sold in Chili in small cakes at one cent each, or in loaves at five cents. The price never alters, but the size diminishes or increases according to the price of flour.

A. Price varies from 1s 2d in autumn, to 4s 9d in spring.

i. Sweet potatoes, 2s per 100lbs ; yams, 2s 6d per 100lbs. Prices variable ; occasionally twice as high.

j. Potatoes, usually £3 to £4, per ton, according to crop and time of year.

k. As the price appeared high a second enquiry was made and the reply received was—"No mistake ; butcher's meat dear."

l. Corn or grain fed mutton, 5d ; first quality of ordinary 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d ; second quality, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

m. One shilling to 1s 6d for the whole leg.

n. Veal, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

o. The price ranges from 1s per dozen to 2s.

From the foregoing table it will be observed that a very wide range exists in the prices of the staple articles of food. Whilst it is needful to expend 100 shillings in order to procure a definite quantity in England, not more than fifty-five shillings are needed to make similar purchases in Servia, which appears to be the cheapest market for them in the whole series. Italy, Holland, and Canada stand almost on a par with England, but in the United States from 127 to 129 shillings must be expended to purchase the same commodities. The somewhat adverse position which this country occupies when compared with some countries on the Continent of Europe arises from the dearth of butcher's meat, which, notwithstanding the reduction in the price of cattle and the large supply of imported meat, still commands an exorbitant price. It is a noteworthy circumstance that in no country is bread so cheap as in England, for the slightly lower price reported from Servia, is supposed to refer to bread of somewhat inferior quality. When it is remembered that a very large

proportion of the bread consumed in this country is made from corn which was grown in Hungary, Russia, India, or on the North American Continent, it is highly satisfactory to find that the consumer in this country pays less for his "staff of life" than the inhabitants of any other land. It is almost startling to observe that the price of bread in Canada and the United States is almost double that in this country, and yet a large proportion of the cereals from which this bread is made, comes from those countries. The high wages which journeymen bakers can obtain in a newly-settled country, and the wider margins of profits which the distributors secure as compared with bakers in this country, account for this paradoxical circumstance.

The succeeding table relates to non-intoxicant beverages and to sugar. The "weekly consumption" was obtained by adding together the price of 12 quarts of milk, half-a-pound of tea, one pound of coffee, four pounds of loaf sugar, and four pounds of soft sugar:—

## BEVERAGES AND SWEETS.

	New Milk, qt.	Tea, 1lb.	Coffee, 1lb.	Loaf sugar, 1lb.	Soft sugar, 1lb.	Weekly expenditure	Relative prices.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
England .....	3	24	18	2½	2	84	100
Isle of Man.....	3	24	20	4	2	92	110
France.....	3	44	22	5	4	116	138
Spain .....	3	90	23	8	6½	149	177
Portugal.....	3½	60	15	6½	3½	127	151
Italy .....	2½	90	22	6½	6	144	171
Switzerland .....	2½	27	13	3	2½	77	92
Baden .....	2½	36	19	4½	4	101	120
Saxony .....	2½	36	16	4½	3½	99	118
Denmark.....	1½	30	12	5	4½	85	101
Holland .....	2½	23	11	7	5½	100	119
Sweden .....	2	38	11	4½	4½	90	107
Austria .....	3	34	13	5½	5	108	128
Russia .....	3½	41	23	3½	3	112	133
Greece.....	5	60	12	5	3½	136	163
Servia .....	4½	48	15	4½	not used	127	151
Algeria .....	5½	30	13	5½	5	135	160
Canada .....	4	49	17	5	4	126	150
Pennsylvania.....	3	25	13	5	3½	96	114
Missouri .....	3	40	15	9	5	127	151
British West Indies...	4	39	16	6	4	124	147
Chili.....	5	84	30	11	19	216	257
Bombay .....	2½	20	8	4½	3a	78	93
South Australia.....	5	24	20	4	3	120	143
New Zealand .....	3½	30	18	4½	3½	107	127

a. White crystal.

The succeeding table relates to the cost of means it is used sparingly, and where it is cheap and of warmth and of gas. Where fuel is expensive abundant it is usually consumed in a lavish manner.

FIRE AND LIGHT—WAGES.

	Coals ton.		Gas 1000 ft.		Housemaid per month.		Railway porter per week.		Carpenter per hour.		Weekly expenditure.		Relative prices.
	s	d.	d.	s	d.	s	d.	s	d.	h's.	d.	d.	
England...	12	6	80	28	4	17	6	per	63	7½	122	100	
Isle of Man	17	6	53	23	4	18	0	"	72	5	127	104	
France ...	22	6	65	26	6	15	10	"	73	5	151	124	
Spain .....	20	0	71	20	10	...	...	...	...	...	123	108	
Portugal...	30	0	78½	9	2	8	9	"	2	118	97		
Italy .....	30	0	84	20	0	10	0	...	...	154	126		
Switzerland	33	0	101	17	0½	16	10p	...	...	157	121		
Baden .....	22	0	72	15	0	...	...	...	...	119	96		
Saxony ...	26	0	68	13	0	...	...	...	...	118	97		
Denmark ..	19	9	53½	11	1	13	0	...	...	94	77		
Holland ...	25	0	57	15	0	10	10	...	3½	117	96		
Sweden ...	16	0	85	17	0	19	0	...	3-9	121	90		
Austria ...	22	6	84½	11	8	14	0c	...	3-9	116	95		
Russia .....	33	7	82	14	0½	7	0r	...	2-4	141	115		
Greece .....	21	0	78½	20	0	11	0	...	...	117	96		
Algeria ...	22	3½	82	26	0	16	6	"	70	4-8	138	113	
Servia .....	40	0c	nil	23	6	13	0	"	72	2-9	179	146	
Canada ...	28	9	79w	34	6	...	...	...	...	193	157		
Pennsylvania ...	14	8d	105j	43	8	37	6	...	...	197	161		
Missouri...	46	8	112	83	4	40	0	...	...	340	278		
British West													
Indies ...	40	0c	nilk	8½	0m	s	...	...	2-3	81	66		
Chili .....	37	6	100	25	0	20	½	...	5-2	167	128		
Bombay ...	27	2½	nil	20	10m	34	0u	"	24	2	173	142	
South Australia ...	27	6	102	56	0	40	0	...	...	243	200		
N'w Zealand	35	0y	120	54	0	49	0	...	...	252	207		

a. Washed coal 40s, coke 36s.

b. Coal as fuel used only in mills.

c. Little used.

d. Soft coal for burning bricks, 18s 9d per ton.

e. Little used.

f. Coal not used, the price given would purchase a ton of wood, the heating power of which would be equal to 7cwt. of coal.

g. 3½s a ton at the yard.

h. Gas company holds a monopoly.

i. 3s 2d for gas for cooking.

j. Also electric light. See Notes on Pennsylvania.

k. Gas not used. The town of Poona is lighted by petroleum.

l. Cook 20s to 21s.

m. Niggers.

n. There are no female servants in Poona. A butler receives 25s, table servant 16s 8d, hamal or porter 13s 4d to 16s 8d, boy 5s to 6s 8d.

o. Daylight to sunset 1s 3d per day.

p. Wages of railway guard 18s 6d, hours of work 15 and 16 per day on alternate weeks. Wages of a sailor on the

lake steamers 24s and two suits of clothes per annum.

q. Ordinary labourers receive 1s 8d per day from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

r. For 12 hours labour or more.

s. Field hands, men 10d, women 6d per day.

t. In Valparaiso a labouring man with no knowledge of a trade gets 90 cents a day for 10 hours' clear work, in the country from 60 to 80 cents. Miners earn two dollars a day. Engine-drivers earn 100 dollars to 125 dollars a month. The express trains between Valparaiso and Santiago are all driven by English drivers, who get 125 dollars a month.

u. The wages are paid for about six hours' work per day, and for this service they receive 3s 4d per week.

v. In the standard list the town of Stockport is omitted. The return with regard to Macclesfield is taken instead, and the rate for carpenters and joiners is for summer 7½d and winter 7d.

w. The price given is for Montreal; gas is dearer in all other Canadian cities.

x. The present price of the rouble is 23 11-131.

Even in our own country we know the difference between the well-piled grates of Lancashire and Yorkshire and the small fires of Middlesex and Hants. Another reason for the varying consumption of coals arises from the circumstance that the lower the latitude the less fuel is needed for the purposes of warmth; and when the fires are maintained solely for the cook and laundress the consumption of fuel is extremely small. For the purpose of comparison it is needful to make some allowance for the less amount of fuel used in hot countries. It is not possible to apportion the expense accurately, but by means of the following scale an attempt is made to remove the more prominent irregularities. It is assumed that the typical Cheshire family will use 320lb of coal per week, that another family of equal means and similar size living in a latitude of 40 degrees will make use of one half the quantity; and for a third family dwelling within the tropics the amount used will be reduced to one-fourth the normal quantity, and when wood is employed the weight taken will be equal to its equivalent in coal. Each family is supposed to burn 500 feet of gas. Where gas is not supplied the figure for "weekly expenses" is obtained by adopting in the "gas" column a figure which is the average of the entire series. A note of interrogation placed after a figure denotes that the correspondent is not responsible for its accuracy. In certain cases the price has not been furnished, and has been supplied from some other source of information. To ascertain the wages paid to domestic servants, the rate of remuneration to an efficient housemaid was selected. To arrive at the weekly expenditure a sum equal to the wages of one such domestic has been included. The wages of a railway porter, or person in a similar position, have been included in most cases—and in some instances the wages paid to a carpenter for an hour's work are supplied. It did not occur to the writer to collect this last-named information until many of the sets of questions had been sent out. Although the information is not required for the purposes of this inquiry, it is by no means without interest. This becomes apparent when it is remembered that in order to enable an artisan to form a judgment as to the desirability of any country for a residence it is needful to deduct his necessary expenditure from his probable income.

#### NOTES ON DENMARK.

Tea is very poor; that at 2s 6d or even 3s per lb. is not equal in quality to what is sold in England for

2s. Very little is drunk by the common people, perhaps one-tenth of the amount of coffee.

A carpenter will obtain about 25 per cent more wages in Copenhagen than in Veile for performing the same amount of work. Most of the work, however, is done by the piece.

The paper money is at par. A krone is worth about ten per cent more than a shilling, and a Danish pound is about ten per cent heavier than an English pound. Therefore 1kr per Danish lb=1s per English lb.

#### NOTES ON SWITZERLAND.

Railway servants receive on the average 2s 5d per day. The fixed salaries range from £44 to £48, which latter figure is the average, for there are also salaries of £60 and £64. The railway servants have eighteen days of holidays per annum, but they receive no pay when thus absent. A deduction from their wages amounting to 3s 3d is made monthly in order to form a fund, out of which pensions are provided, payments to widows, and on account of sickness, &c., are made. When absent from illness a servant receives one-fourth of his wages. Medical attendance, medicine, &c., are provided free of charge.

Prices: Cabbages, 1½d each; honey, 1s per lb; butter, 1s 2d; medium cheese, 6½d; hay, 4s 5d per cwt; straw, 4s per cwt.

#### NOTES ON ALGERIA.

Tea is very little used by the working people, who prefer coffee. For cooking purposes charcoal is used. It costs 3s 7½d per cwt.

#### NOTES ON ANTIGUA.

Prices: Kerosine, i.e., petroleum, 1s 3d per gal. for "best fireproof oil;" plantains, 2 for 1d.

#### NOTES ON SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

It is not usual to keep other than a general servant. Wages are higher in the town than in the country except far north, e.g., two girls just employed will receive £45 each the first year and £50 afterwards, their fare (£5 or £6) being paid in addition if they remain for a year. Servants are generally engaged by the week, as they like change.

#### NOTES ON BOMBAY.

The prices of commodities in European shops (where such exist) are dearer than in native shops. Persons new to the country also pay more dearly.

Common bazaar tea is purchased for 11d. From English shops; Indian tea ranges from 1s to 3s per lb.

Hindoo carpenter, 1s 3d per day; if engaged by the month, £1 to £1 5s. Chinese carpenter, a first-class workman, 1s 5d per day, usually of nine hours, but occasionally more or less. The rupee has been taken as equal to 1s 8d.

NOTES FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

Price of a whole hog, 3d per lb; apples per bushel, 5s 3d; barrel of flour, 200lb, 25s; wheat, per bushel of 64lb, 4s 3d; Indian corn, 2s 7d per bushel of 60lb; oats, 2s 1d per bushel of 32lb; wheat bran, 8s per ton; hay (timothy), 85s per ton delivered.

House rents: House of five rooms adjoining West Chester (lot 28ft by 180ft), 25s per month; seven rooms (small back lot 16ft by 100ft), £25 per annum; ten rooms (lot 25ft by 150ft), £53 per annum. Such a house would bring about £735 at public sale. House-painters' wages, 9s a day; carpenters, 11s; bricklayers, 12s; good brick moulders, 6s to 10s; unskilled labourer, 5s a day.

Farms of 100 acres, within two miles of West Chester, let for about £150 to £210, including buildings. Lots of two to five acres let for about 50s to 63s per acre for pasture and farming purposes.

Horses are sold at public sale from 20 to 40 guineas each. Cows with calf at side sell together from 8 to 15 guineas.

Butter, 1s to 1s 8d per lb; poultry, dressed, 6d to 7½d per lb.

Anthracite coal, 27s per ton, delivered. Hickory wood, per cwt, for fuel, 21s to 25s, delivered.

Taxes on farmers' valuation about two-thirds of selling price of the property; road tax, 2½ mills on the dollar (rather more than ¼d in the pound); school tax, 2 mills, or ½d in the pound; state and county tax, 3 mills, or ¾d in the pound; taxes in the borough, about 10 mills per 100 dollars' valuation (one-tenth of a farthing in the pound).

Bricks at the yard from 25s to 45s per 1000.

An advertising store proprietor offers any of the following articles, warranted to be of good quality, for one shilling:—

5lb Halves Peaches	5lb Dried Apples
7 quarts Cranberries	3 quarts Beans
3 cans Tomatoes	3 cans Corn
2lb full cream Cheese	3 cans Peas
2lb Rio Coffee	3lb Corn Starch
3lb Crackers	3lb Currants
5lb Prunes	2lb peeled Peaches
7lb Oat Meal	6lb Oat Grits
6lb fat Mackerel	8lb Buckwheat Flour
2lb Dried Beef	3lb Mince Meat
1 gallon Syrup	4lb Rice
7 sacks large Dairy Salt	6 bars Olive Soap
5lb Starch	4lb Tapioca
1lb Tea	1 peck Apples
1lb Firkin Butter.	

West Chester is supplied with the Edison electric light in addition to gas. The rates charged per month for private houses for one 10 candle-power lamp, 2s 6d. For five such lamps 8s 4d, and additional lamps 5d each. For commercial purposes, to burn till midnight, one lamp, 10 candle-power, 3s 4d per month, or one of 32 candle-power 10s 1d per month. For private houses lamps are not charged in the first instance, but renewals cost 3s 6d. Each connection and fittings are paid for by the user in all cases.

NOTES ON NEW ZEALAND.

The prices of most articles of food except meat are a little dearer in Napier than most other parts of New Zealand, which is said to be from the want of a good harbour; but as a new harbour is now in course of construction this will be remedied in new shops. The price of fat sheep weighing 70lb from 6s to 8s 6d each, of fat cattle from 16s to 18s per 100lb, wheat 3s 6d per bushel, oats 2s 6d, flour from £8 to £10 per ton, so that people killing their own meat and baking their own bread can live cheaply. Nelson's Lomrana freezing works here have shipped already this season nearly 10,000 fat sheep. If it had not been for this outlet the price of fat stock would have been far lower. The price of tallow in the London market is now so low, the returns for boiling down is very fine indeed, the expenses being quite as much as when tallow was worth double the money. The experience of the grain-growers is the same. They cannot compete with Indian wheat in the London market, hence that business is not prospering, and large numbers of labourers have been unable to find employment, and large numbers are leaving for Australia. Many are leaving for the new gold fields situated near the Cambridge Gulf in West Australia. This will cause that hitherto almost unknown part of North-West Australia to become settled, and if the country should prove an Eldorado all will be more or less benefited. We have had a very dry summer, which has proved most healthy for the stock. Lung-worm amongst the sheep has almost disappeared, and the clip has been exceptionally good. The weather now is everything that could be wished, grass is growing fast, and our winter prospects for feed are good.

NOTES FOR ENGLAND.

The following are the rates of wages paid in the building trade in towns in this part of England, as well as in London in summer. Most of the rates are the same for winter, but some are a little higher during the winter.

## RATES OF WAGES—PER HOUR.

	Masons.		Bricklayers.		Carpenters.		Plasterers.		Slaters.		Plumbers.		Painters.		Masons' labourers.		Bricklayers' labourers.		Plasterers' labourers.	
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
London.....	9	9	9	9	9	10	8½	6	6	6										
Crewe .....	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7	4	4	4										
Chester .....	8	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	6½	5½	5½	5½										
Liverpool...	8	8	7½	8	8	8	7½	5½	5½	5½										
Manchester.	8	8½	8	8	8	8	7	5	5½	5½										
Macclesfield	7½	7½	7½	7½	7	6½	6	4½	4½	4½										
Warrington	8	8	7½	7½	7½	7½	7	5	5½	4½										
Willmalow ...	7½	7	6½	7	7	7	7	5	5	5										

It now remains to combine the information supplied in the various tables. This has been done by adding together the figures given in the column "weekly expenditure" for each country in order to furnish a table of aggregate weekly expenditure. By multiplying this newly-found figure for England by such a decimal as will bring it to 100, and also by multiplying each of the new figures for aggregate weekly expenditure for the various places by the same figure we shall arrive at a series of aggregate relative prices. If from all these figures we deduct 100, the remaining figures will express in percentages the greater cost of living in any particular country than in England, so far as it can be determined by this method of inquiry.

It will not be forgotten that the figures have not been taken at random or copied from printed or doubtful papers, but are the result of careful inquiry on the spot in every case by competent persons, whose object has not been to write up or down their several countries, but to supply accurate information, and the greatest care has been taken to furnish the prices of identical articles, so far as possible making use of identical samples and patterns. It has been pointed out that the price of a single commodity would be too narrow a basis on which to erect an argument, but that by taking the whole series together any small irregularity disappears, and, indeed, it is not easy to understand how a more reliable method could be devised. It

may also be conceded that the relative quantities of articles used in a family might in the judgment of some persons be varied to a small extent with advantage; but it would not be possible to re-state the figures with due regard to the proportions usually consumed by persons of the middle class, and materially to modify the results. It may be mentioned that no effort whatever has been made to prove a preconceived theory or to "cook" the figures in the slightest degree; indeed, three out of the four tables which supply the facts were published before they were digested in table number five.

The general result of the inquiry may be stated in a very few words, and words which can never be forgotten.

ENGLAND IS THE VERY CHEAPEST PLACE  
IN ALL THE SERIES, AND SO FAR AS IS  
KNOWN, IT IS THE CHEAPEST PLACE IN  
THE WHOLE WORLD IN WHICH TO LIVE

## COST OF LIVING,

As determined by expenditure on clothing and other fabrics, animal and farinaceous foods, milk, tea and coffee, coals, gas, and wages of domestic servants, arranged in order of dearness.

	Weekly expenditure s. d.		Dearer than England per cent.
ENGLAND .....	42	10	—
ISLE OF MAN .....	42	9	—
DENMARK .....	43	3	1
SERVIA .....	44	2	3
SWEDEN.....	44	4	4
SWITZERLAND .....	44	7	4
SAXONY .....	45	8	7
RUSSIA .....	45	11	7
BADEN.....	46	4	8
HOLLAND .....	46	9	9
AUSTRIA.....	47	5	11
PORTUGAL .....	48	3	12
BOMBAY.....	48	1	13
FRANCE .....	49	4	15
GREECE .....	49	9	16
ITALY .....	51	3	20
CANADA .....	53	7	25
PENNSYLVANIA .....	54	1	26
NEW ZEALAND .....	56	6	31
ALGERIA .....	57	8	35
SPAIN .....	59	2	38
SOUTH AUSTRALIA..	63	11	49
CHILI .....	68	2	59
MISSOURI .....	69	7	63

From this table it will be seen that the expenditure of a family would be 7 per cent. greater in Germany than in England, 15 per cent. greater in France, 20 per cent. in Italy, and 25 per cent. in Canada.

But eminently consoling as this fact may be, there is something still more remarkable to observe. The newly-settled countries are those in which high wages may be earned, but they are in every instance the countries in which much more money has to be expended in the necessary outgoings of a family. But England is not only a country for the cheapest commodities, but it is also the country in which the highest wages are paid of any of the old countries. In other language, it is that country in Europe in which most money may be earned by an artisan, and also that in which the least money needs to be

spent; so the advantage is twofold. This may be illustrated by adding together a month's wages of a man and a woman, one being a railway porter and the other a housemaid, in the old countries, and then comparing them with the amount of remuneration paid for similar service in England, thus:—

England: Income, 98s 4d.

Denmark: Income, 63s 1d, being 36 per cent. less. Expenditure, 1 per cent. greater.

Servia: Income, 75s 6d, being 24 per cent. less. Expenditure, 3 per cent. greater.

Sweden: Income, 93s, being 5 per cent. less. Expenditure, 4 per cent. greater.

Switzerland: Income, 84s 4d, being 14 per cent. less. Expenditure, 4 per cent. greater.

Russia: Income, 42s, being 57 per cent. less. Expenditure, 7 per cent. greater.



Holland: Income, 58s 4d, being 41 per cent. less. Expenditure, 9 per cent. greater.

Austria: Income 67s 8d, being 31 per cent. less. Expenditure, 11 per cent. greater.

Portugal: Income, 44s 2d, being 55 per cent. less. Expenditure, 13 per cent. greater.

France: Income, 89s 10d, being 9 per cent. less. Expenditure, 15 per cent. greater.

Greece: Income, 64s, being 35 per cent. less. Expenditure, 16 per cent. greater.

Italy: Income, 60s, being 39 per cent. less. Expenditure, 20 per cent. greater.

It is not to be expected that an old and overpopulated country like England can vie with the virgin soils of Canada, Australia, and the Western States of America; but the disparity is less than might be expected when expenditure is taken into

the account. It is true that the carpenter in Pennsylvania is able to earn 11s per day, and his colleague of the plane and chisel in London obtains the lesser, although substantial, sum of three half-crowns. But as the outgoings in America exceed those in England by 28 per cent. a considerable portion of the higher rate of wages is counter-balanced.

If it be true that both as regards income and expenditure England enjoys a pre-eminent position over all the countries of Europe, it will be well to ascertain to what causes this advantage is due, so as to take care that the blessing consequent on some influence or influences operating favourably in the past be not imperilled by any ill-considered acts, but rather that such influences be fostered, and, if possible, increased.

Wilmalaw.

ALFRED FITZ.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

When I first went to work at Mr Higson's mill there was a young man employed there named John Gudgeon. He was born in the year 1809 in a cottage near the mill. I have been told that young Gudgeon's first occupation in this mill was being a tenter for a weaver. He afterwards became a weaver, and followed that occupation some years. From his youth Mr Gudgeon was of a studious disposition; whilst other boys in the neighbourhood were playing in the streets, young Gudgeon would be perfecting himself in his writing and arithmetic, in which he became very expert. In the year 1827, when he was only 18 years old, he was filling the important post of cutlooker at Mr Higson's. This is a very responsible situation, and it speaks much in Mr Gudgeon's favour he having attained such an important post at such an early age. The duties of a cutlooker are very onerous; he has to take the weavers' work in, book it, see that there are the proper number of picks per inch in the cloth, weigh it to see that it is the proper weight, ascertain its length, and look it minutely over to see if there be any flaws in the cloth. It is also the cutlooker's duty to inflict the fines, and their amount, upon the weavers who bring in bad

work. At the week end the cutlooker has to ascertain the earnings of each weaver for that week, and prepare a list of the same for the cashier. John Gudgeon was born in a house which was about two shillings and sixpence per week rental. His parents were of the poorer class, they had little money to spend on their son's education; his determination, energy, and perseverance, however, overcame all obstacles, and he was said to be one of the best scholars we had on Lancashire hills.

When I went a second time to work at Mr Higson's mill, in the year 1830, Mr Gudgeon had attained the honourable situation of being the salesman for Mr Higson's firm. His duties now were to go to Liverpool to purchase the cotton required at the mill, and to attend the Manchester market to sell the goods when manufactured. We had two female beam-warpers working in the throstle-room at this time. One was Miss Mary Bentley, sister to two conspicuous members of the Stockport Sunday School orchestra; one the librarian, the other a scribe, who copied most of the music contained in the Stockport Sunday School library. The other beam warper was Mary Lomas. Whether she was a spinster or a widow I never ascertained. One thing, I knew that she had a daughter, near the same age as myself, who was a bobbin-winder, and worked in the same room

as her mother. Mary Lomas was born in the year 1794; at the time I am writing about she would be 37 years of age, and Mr Gudgeon would be 22. Mary Lomas was a tall, good-looking, cheerful, and matronly sort of a female; and although she was fifteen years Mr Gudgeon's senior, by her good looks and loving ways she fairly captivated the young man's heart. At nights after the mill was lit up Mr Gudgeon often came into the throstle-room to spend the evening until the engine stopped with his lady-love. Ultimately they got married, and I believe they lived happily together.

About the year 1835 the first co-operative movement was instituted in Stockport. This was the banding together of a number of young men to instruct each other in the various branches of knowledge. Mr Gudgeon was one of the first pioneers of this knowledge co-operative society. The old theatre at the bottom of Park-street collapsed as a theatre about the year 1834. It was next rented by a number of musicians, who met there for practice, and gave concerts there periodically for several years. These musicians re-christened the place the Stockport Concert Hall. When this society in turn collapsed the old theatre again became tenantless. It was now that these young aspirants for knowledge engaged it as their meeting-place, and rechristened it the Stockport Mechanics' Institution. In the year 1838 we had no suitable place in Stockport where we could go and listen to a lecture on the various sciences, excepting a few Sunday schools, and they were not always comeatable. One of the first things the directors of this new mechanics' institution did was to engage some of the cleverest men in England to come and lecture on various subjects. One of the first engagements was that of Dr. Lardnor. This gentleman was engaged to deliver a lecture weekly for three months. The prices of admission were three shillings the boxes, two shillings the pit, and one shilling the gallery for each person. There were season tickets issued, admitting the bearer to the whole course of lectures. I have forgot the prices of the season tickets for the boxes and pit. I well remember that the price of the gallery tickets for the season was half-a-guinea. Three young men, whom I well knew, were very anxious to attend these lectures, but a shilling a week was more than they could command. A commercial traveller was a lodger at the residence of one of these youths. This traveller bought a season ticket for the gallery, and the same week he was laid up sick, and could not leave the house,

which he never did alive. William Fisher, one of these youths, became the possessor of his ticket, and he made it known to his other two companions that he had got it. The first arrangement came to was that they should attend these lectures alternately. This proposition was soon vetoed. In looking at the programme of Dr. Lardnor's lectures it was seen that one subject (steam) required a number of lectures, and this being a subject in which these youths were all interested, they were each desirous of hearing all the lectures. The two entrances to the building for the public were in Nelson-street. The boxes and pit entrance was next door to the Garrick's Head public house. The gallery entrance was a little further up the street. Between these two entrances stood a lamp post. In the gable end of the building was an aperture in the wall to ventilate the theatre within half a yard of the top of this lamp post. The lamp post, which ought to have been of service to the public, was a great annoyance at times to the officials of the theatre. Many a youth (whom I knew) has climbed the lamp post, and got inside the theatre through this aperture. Mr Neville (an honoured name amongst Thespians), the last lessee of this theatre, became cognizant of these unlawful visits, and he was determined he would stop them. He could not do without the ventilator, and he could not well remove the lamp, so he caused the lamp post to be covered with gas ta, which had the desired effect. The aperture was still in the wall and the lamp post was still standing when Dr. Lardnor paid his visit to Stockport. These youths had no desire to climb the lamp post that they might attend Dr. Lardner's lectures. One of them suggested a plan which answered their purpose amazingly well.

The plan adopted was this. The legitimate owner of the ticket (William Fisher) went first, showed his ticket, and gained admittance. When in the gallery he wrapped his ticket in a dark-coloured handkerchief got ready for the purpose; he then put it through the ventilator and let it drop on the footpath below where his companions were waiting to receive it. The same process was gone through until all the three youths had gained admittance. This plan to gain admittance was carried on successfully for several weeks. One night the youth who went into the Mechanics' Institution the first let the ticket drop as soon as he got in the gallery unobserved by his friends below. After waiting near half an hour, the youth who had gone up with the ticket came out of the institution again, and demanded of his friends the reason they

had not followed him up. The answer was they had not found the ticket. The ticket was again found, and the three youths again entered. This dishonest stratagem was carried out successfully during the whole course of Dr. Lardner's lectures. Though, of course, a reprehensible act, it shows how great in those days was the thirst for knowledge; and perhaps after all there was not so much harm done when the good acquired was weighed against the bad practised. In recent years I have noticed that several series of excellent lectures delivered on scientific subjects at our Mechanics' Institute by eminent men have been but miserably attended, though the prices have been low; so low, in fact, as to be no incentive to the cunning which was practised by Fisher and his companions at the old theatre in Park-street.

To give effect to his lectures at the old Mechanics Institute, Dr. Lardner had an extensive collection of working models, illustrating the various appliances which steam might be put to up to that time. He had models of all kinds of marine steam engines and steamboats, from the first which floated to the last then built. He exhibited a steam gun which would discharge with deadly effect sixty bullets a minute. He had the model of a steam apparatus to pump water out of coal mines and other deep places. I saw this plan afterwards in operation when they were excavating the pit where now stands the large gas holder at the Heaton Norris works, but I never heard of it being put to use in drawing water from a coal pit. He exhibited the model of an apparatus to prevent an enemy boarding a vessel, which has never been put to practice, to my knowledge. The plan was something like this: A steam pipe from the boiler was attached to the mast of the ship, and went a little higher than the mast. A horizontal pipe was attached to the top of the former, with a swivel joint. Steam and boiling water was turned into these pipes, which caused the horizontal pipe to revolve and throw a shower of boiling water from its open mouth all round the ship, and none falling on the deck. The doctor made it quite clear to our minds that no foe could board any of our vessels whilst this aqueous infernal machine was at work. His concluding lectures were on astronomy. To elucidate this science to our minds Dr. Lardner had a magnificent orrery, which displayed the evolutions of the planetary system in perfect order. Dr. Lardner was a very learned and accomplished person. He was good-looking, fluent in speech, had a winning way in gaining the attention of his listeners, and appeared in every respect a perfect gentleman. Had he remained in Stockport I have

no doubt that he would have left an honourable name behind him.

The next I heard of him was that he had slept with Sir Henry Bishop's wife, one of our best known musical composers, and the affair made a considerable stir at the time. The elopement case was the last I heard of Dr. Lardner, and I could but moralise on the value of accomplishments as knowledge as weighed against honour and vice. Sir Henry Bishop's home comforts were blighted ever. England commiserated with him in his sorrow; concerts were given for his benefit in most of the large towns in England; one was held in the Theatre Royal, Fountain-street, Manchester, which Mr Bishop attended, and there were many musicians from Stockport. The music performed at this concert was entirely composed by Mr Bishop. All the artistes, the best Manchester and the surrounding towns contained, also a number from London, gave their services gratuitously. Mr Bishop, who sat in one of the private boxes during the first part of the concert, was called upon to make a speech at the interval, which he accepted. Amongst the artistes engaged at this concert was Mr Wood, one of the most accomplished singers then in England. Mr Bishop in his speech told an anecdote concerning him. Sir Henry was the musical director and composer to the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, London, many years. During this period he composed suitable music to various dramas then introduced on the stage, and converted some of them into operas. I will name a few out of many:—"The miller and his men," "Ivanhoe," "Rob Roy," and "The Man of the Manneering."

He had composed the music to the last of his work, and he had fixed his mind that a young aspirant to the lyric stage (a pupil of his) should sing the solo part in one of the glees introduced in the piece, I think it was the glee "When a whistle cold." Sir Henry said he had given music of this glee to this young man, with the junction that he was to prepare himself to take part on the stage on a certain date. A few days before the time the young man appeared at Sir Bishop's residence, and, with a sorrowful countenance, begged to be excused taking his part, as he felt unequal to the task. Mr Bishop encouraged him to persevere, assuring him that he (Mr Bishop) had every confidence in his ability. The glee was performed, and the young man sustained his part to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Mr Bishop (pointing to Mr Wood) said: This

ung man that was afraid to take his part in one my glees; you have heard him to-night; I ave it with you to judge what his abilities are. It is after the elopement that the Queen conferred a honour of knighthood on him, and that English musicians did their best to soothe his sorrow, but the Queen's and the nation's sympathy could not al a broken heart. Sir Henry Bishop died soon er, and there is no doubt that his wife's desertion him had much to do with his death.

Mr John Gudgeon, the secretary of the Mechanics' Institute, and his compeers vied with each er in providing instruction and amusement for the people of Stockport. Senor Blitze and Mr unfold were engaged to show us the science of perdemain. Charles Kemble was invited to ne and amuse us with his Shakesperian readings. Pitman was engaged, and he delivered several tures on phonography. He was also engaged to nonstrate his system of shorthand writing. A tleman and a number of his pupils were invited come and show us the system they had of edu- ing the deaf and dumb, which was both tructive and amusing. An oculist from Man- ster delivered several lectures on vision, which re well patronised and appreciated. Another ne to instruct us how to improve our memory. tried to make us believe that if we adhered to instructions we should be able to read a news- ver through, and afterwards recite it from mory. Mr James Leech was present at this ture, and sat on the stage at the right hand side he lecturer. Mr Leech was a shrewd person, l it would have taken a very clever man to eive him. This memory man was about twenty nutes after the stipulated time before he put in appearance, the audience waiting very atiently during that time. When he did arrive entered on the stage like a thunderbolt, as if all world were waiting for his presence. After ing the perspiration from his brow, and placing hat and umbrella on the table, and making an logy for his late appearance, he commenced his ure.

During his lecture I saw Mr Leech give him (as ought) several incredulous glances. This mory man, who came from Manchester, delivered lecture, but whilst doing so he forgot the time n the railway train should convey him back to nchester. He concluded very abruptly, after ing at his watch, and again apologised, and left institute as abruptly as he entered it. He l only been gone a few seconds when Mr Leech ied the lecturer's umbrella lying on the table.

He picked it up and showed it to those around him, remarking, "Look here, the memory man has forgotten his umbrella."

I remember being present when Mr Walter Vaughan delivered a lecture in this institute on astronomy. This was well delivered, and demon- strated that Mr Vaughan was master of his subject. Mr Walter Vaughan was one of three brothers— John, Walter, and William. All three were con- spicuous characters in Stockport at one time. Walter was the proprietor of a high class academy over thirty years ago in the premises adjoining the present Industrial School for girls in Churchgate. Many who now hold responsible positions in the town owe a debt of gratitude to him for their suc- cess in life. Mr Walter Vaughan's last occupation was being the actuary in the savings bank, Lower Hillgate.

The further career of Mr John Gudgeon and his connection with the Mechanics' Institution will be continued in my next paper.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

# CHESHIRE HIGH SHERIFFS.

## II.

### WILLIAM AND MARY.

1694. William Davenport of Bromhall, esq.
1695. Richard Legh, of East Hall, High Legh, esq.
1696. Charles Hurleston of Newton, esq.
1697. William Whitmore of Thurstanton, esq.
1698. Thomas Lee of Dernhall, esq.
1699. Thomas Delves of Erdshaw, esq.
1700. Sir Henry Bunbury of Stanney, bart.
1701. Lawrence Wright of Mobberley, esq.

### ANNE.

1702. John Davenport of Woodford, esq.
1703. Sir John Chetwode of Whitley, bart.
1704. John Baskervyle of Old Withington, esq.
1705. John Legh of Adlington, esq.
1706. Sir Francis Leycester of Tabley, bart.
1707. Edmund Swetenham of Somerford, esq.
1708. Sir Samuel Daniel of Tabley, kt.
1709. William Domville of Lymm, esq.
1710. Clutton Wright of Nantwich, esq.
1711. John Amson of Lees, esq.
1712. John Leche of Carden, esq.
1713. Sir Thomas Cotton of Combermere, bart.
1714. Randle Willbraham of Nantwich, esq.

### GEORGE I.

1715. Richard Walthall of Wistaston, esq.
1716. Francis Jodrell of Fwemlowe, esq.
1717. James Bayley of Wistaston, esq.
1718. John Bromhall of Hough, esq.
1719. Samuel Barrow of Shepenhall, esq.
1720. Sir Thomas Brooke of Norton, bart.

1721. Edmund Swetenham of Somerford, esq.  
 1722. George Davenport of Calveley, esq.  
 1723. Sir Thomas Aston of Aston, bart.  
 1724. Edward Downes of Shrigley, esq.  
 1725. John Parker of Fallows, esq.  
 1726. Richard Rutter of Moore, esq.  
 1727. Charles Hurleston of Newton, esq.
- GEORGE II.
1728. Peter Bronke of Mere, esq.  
 1729. Robert Davies of Manley, esq.  
 1730. John Daniel of Daresbury, esq.  
 1731. Edward Warren of Poynton, esq.  
 1732. William Brock of Upton, esq.  
 1733. Leigh Page of Hawthorne, esq.  
 1734. Henry Bennet of Moston, esq.  
 1735. Trafford Barnston of Churton, esq.  
 1736. William Dod of Edge, esq.  
 1737. Thomas Booth of Twemlowe, esq.  
 1738. William Tatton of Withenshawe, esq.  
 1739. Robert Hyde of Cattenhall, esq.  
 1740. John Spencer of Huntington, esq., died in office.  
 1740. Sir John Byrne of Stanthorne, bart.  
 1741. William Chesshyre of Hallwood, esq.  
 1742. Peter Legh of Lyme, esq.  
 1743. Philip Egerton of Oulton, esq.  
 1744. Sir Peter Warburton of Arley, bart.  
 1745. Thomas Hall of Hermitage, esq.  
 1746. Ralph Leycester of Toft, esq.  
 1747. Charles Legh of Adlington, esq.  
 1748. Edward Green of Poulton, esq.  
 1749. George Leigh of Oughtrington, esq.  
 1750. James Croxton of Guilden Sutton, esq.  
 1751. Sir William Duckenfield-Daniel of Duckenfield, bart.  
 1752. Sir Richard Brooke of Norton, bart.  
 1753. John Leghe of Carden, esq.  
 1754. Robert Lawton of Lawton, esq.  
 1755. Thomas Slougher of Newton, esq.  
 1756. Thomas Prescott of Eardshaw, esq.  
 1757. William Robinson of Whatcroft, esq.  
 1758. John Egerton of Broxton, esq.  
 1759. Samuel Harrison of Crannach, esq.  
 1760. Sir Peter Leicester of Tabley, bart.
- GEORGE III.
1761. John Arden of Harden, esq.  
 1762. Hon. Richard Barry of Marbury.  
 1763. John Alsager of Alsager, esq.  
 1764. John Crewe of Crewe, esq.  
 1765. Hon. John Smith Barry of Belmont.  
 1766. Peter Brooks of Mere, esq.  
 1767. Sir Lister Holt of Brereton, bart.  
 1768. Henry Harvey Aston of Aston, esq.  
 1769. Philip Egerton of Oulton, esq.  
 1770. Sir Robert Cunliffe of Saughton, bart.  
 1771. John Crewe of Bolesworth, esq.  
 1772. Sir Henry Mainwaring of Peover, bart.  
 1773. George Wilbraham of Townsend, esq.
1774. William Loche of Carden, esq.  
 1775. Thomas Patten of Buerton, esq.  
 1776. John Astley of Duckenfield, esq.  
 1777. Peter Kyffin Heron of Moore, esq.  
 1778. William Tatton of Withenshaw, esq.  
 1779. John Bower-Jodrell of Yardsley, esq.  
 1780. Samuel Barron of Sheppenhall, esq.  
 1781. William Davenport of Bromhall, esq.  
 1782. Sir Peter Warburton of Warburton, bart.  
 1783. Davies Davenport of Capesthorn, esq.  
 1784. Thomas Willis of Swettenham, esq.  
 1785. Hon. Wilbraham Tollemache, Woodhey.  
 1786. Henry Cornwall Legh of High Legh, esq.  
 1787. Sir Richard Brooke of Norton, bart.  
 1788. John Glegg of Withington, esq.  
 1789. The same; Spring Assizes.  
 1789. Sir John Chetwode of Agden, bart.; Autumn Assizes, app. May 21.  
 1790. John Arden of Harden, esq.  
 1791. Charles Watkin John Chakerley of Somerford, esq.  
 1792. Thomas Cholmondeley of Vale Royal, esq.  
 1793. John Egerton of Oulton, esq.  
 1794. Domville Poole of Lymme, esq.  
 1795. James Hugh Smith Barry of Marbury, esq.  
 1796. Hon. Booth Grey of Wincham.  
 1797. John Leche of Stretton, esq.  
 1797. Thomas Langford Brooks of Mere, esq.  
 1798. Richard Hibbert of Birtles, esq.  
 1799. Joseph Green of Poulton Lancelyn, esq.  
 1800. Roger Barnston of Churton, esq.  
 1801. William Rigby of Oldfield, esq.  
 1801. John Scott Waring of Ince, esq.  
 1802. Lawrence Wright of Mottram, esq.  
 1803. John Fielden of Mollington, esq.  
 1804. Sir John Fleming Leicester of Tabley, bart.  
 1805. George John Legh of High Legh, esq.  
 1806. Sir Harry Mainwaring Mainwaring of Over Peover, bart.  
 1807. Francis Duckenfield Astley of Duckenfield, esq.  
 1808. Charles Trelawney Brereton of Shotwick Park, esq.  
 1808. Wilbraham Egerton of Tatton Park, esq.  
 1809. Thomas William Tatton of Withenshaw, esq.  
 1810. Thomas Brooks of Church Minshull, esq.  
 1811. Booth Grey of Ashton Heya, esq.  
 1812. Edmund Yates of Ince, esq.  
 1813. Francis Bower-Jodrell of Henbury, esq.  
 1814. John Baskerville Glegg of Gayton, esq.  
 1815. John Isherwood of Marple, esq.  
 1816. Samuel Aldersey of Aldersey, esq.  
 1817. Sir Richard Brooke of Norton, bart.  
 1818. Henry Charles Aston of Aston, esq.  
 1819. John Smith Barry of Marbury, esq.
- GEORGE IV.
1820. James France of Bostock, esq.  
 1821. Thomas Wilson of Landican, esq.  
 1822. Charles Wicksted of Baddesley, esq.

3. James White of Sutton in Wirral, esq.
4. Peter Langford Brooke of Mere, esq.
5. John Daintry of North Rode, esq.
6. William Turner of Pott Shrigley, esq.
7. Peter Legh of Norbury-Booths, esq.
8. Richard Massey of Moston, esq.
9. Lawrence Armitstead of Cranage, esq.

WILLIAM IV.

10. George Walmsley of Bolesworth Castle, esq.
11. Sir Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley of Hooton, bart.
12. John Hurleston Leche of Carden, esq.
13. Rowland Eyles Egerton-Warburton, of Arley, esq.
14. William Astle of Dukinfield, esq.
15. Gibbs Crawford Antrobus of Eaton, esq. *vice* Astley deceased.
16. Joseph Leigh, esq.
17. James Heath Leigh of Grappenhall Lodge, esq. *vice* J. Leigh deceased.
18. Egerton Leigh of High Leigh and Jodrell esq.

VICTORIA.

19. Charles Peter Shakerley of Somerford, esq.
20. George Cornwall Legh of High Legh, esq.
21. Thomas Hibbert of Birtles, esq.
22. John Tollemache of Peckforton, esq.
23. John Royle of Henbury, esq.
24. Edward Davies Davenport, of Capesthorpe, esq.
25. John Dixon of Astle, esq.
26. George Wilbraham of Delamere House, esq.
27. Sir William Thomas Stanley Massey Stanley of Hooton, bart.
28. James Hugh Smith Barry of Marbury, esq.
29. Ralph Gerard Leicester of Toft, esq.
30. Henry Brooke of Church Minshull, esq.
31. Thomas William Tatton of Withenshaw, esq.
32. Sir Arthur Ingram Aston of Eaton, G.C.B.
33. Thomas Marsland of Henbury Hall, esq.
34. George Holland Ackers of Moreton Hall, esq.
35. John Hurleston Leche of Carden, esq.
36. Francis Dukinfield Palmer Astley of Dukinfield, esq.
37. John Chapman of Hill end Mottram, esq.
38. Richard Christopher Nayer of Hooton Hall, esq.
39. William Atkinson of Ashton Heyes, esq.
40. George Fortescue Wilbraham of Delamere House, esq.
41. Arthur Henry Davenport of Capesthorpe, esq.
42. Clement Swettenham of Somerford Booths esq.
43. Edward Holt Glegg of Backford, esq.
44. Thomas Aldersey of Aldersey, esq.
45. Sir Charles Watkin Shakerley of Somford.
46. John Ralph Shaw of Arrowe Park, esq.
47. Wilbraham Spencer Tollemache of Darfold, esq.
48. Robert Barbour of Bolesworth Castle, esq.
49. Thomas Henry Lyon of Appleton Hall, esq.

1868. John Coutts Antrobus of Eaton, esq.
1869. Samuel Woodhouse of Morley Hall, esq.
1870. Sir Richard Brooke of Norton, bart.
1871. The Earl Haddington of Eaton Bank.
1872. Egerton Leigh of High Leigh and Jodrell, esq.
1873. Gilbert Greenall of Wilderspool House, esq.
1874. Sir Edward William Watkin knt, M.P., Rose Hill, Northenden.
1875. Richard Barton of Caldey Manor, esq.
1876. John Baskervyle Glegg of Withington Hall, esq.
1877. Thomas Unett Brocklehurst of Henbury Hall, esq.
1878. Phillip Stapleton Humberstone of Glan-y-Wern, Denbighshire, esq.
1879. Lieut.-col. C. H. France Hayhurst of Bostock Hall, Middlewich.
1880. Cudworth Halstead Poole of Marbury, Whitchurch, esq.
1881. George Dixon of Astle Hall, Chelford, esq.
1882. Egerton Leigh of West Hall, High Legh, esq.
1883. A. H. Smith-Barry of Marbury Hall, Northwich, esq.
1884. Colonel H. Cornwall Legh of High Legh, Knutsford.
1885. Colonel Hugh Robert Hibbert of Birtles Hall Chelford.
1886. Francis Dicken Brocklehurst of Hare Hill, Macclesfield, esq.

HISTORICUS.

THE BULKELEYS OF CHESHIRE.

No one who knew the late Thomas Brassey—a Cheshire man—can do otherwise than rejoice that his son should have been elevated to the Peerage; but in common with many other antiquarians I very much doubted the propriety of his assuming the title of Lord Bulkeley. He has wisely chosen that of Lord Brassey of Bulkeley, and there can be no reasonable objection made to that. Mr Owen Bulkeley, of Shrewsbury, who claims to be a lineal descendant of the eminent Cheshire family of his name, addressed the following letter to the *Standard* on the Bulkeley title, and it is worth perusing:—

Sir,—It is announced in the papers that Sir Thomas Brassey intends taking the title of Lord Bulkeley on his being raised to the Peerage.

As a lineal descendant of the ancient and distinguished family of the Bulkeleys of Cheshire, I protest against his assumption of a title to which he can lay no claim, either by blood or descent.

The title is an old and honoured one, and, although now in abeyance in consequence of missing documental evidence, is treasured amongst the lineal descendants of the Bulkeleys as an inheritance which may one day be proved to belong in right to the next-of-kin; and it is with feelings of astonishment and indignation on the part of the descendants of that illustrious family, that they see an absolute stranger by birth and name laying claim to a title to which he can have no possible right; and which is, moreover, a sacred and

treasured heirloom among those holding the name and armorial bearings.

Surely, sir, brand-new Peers cannot appropriate old and honoured titles, at the expense of the feelings of those whose name and privileges they seek to usurp.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

OWEN T. BULKELEY.

Lystonville, Shrewsbury, August 6.

What I have stated above shows that Sir Thomas Brassey has not adopted the "honoured title" Mr Bulkeley alludes to, and so far good; but the new peer now claims to have descended from de Brassie, an Norman lord, who settled in Cheshire, and it is asserted on his behalf that his ancestors have remained on some of our hundred acres of the lands granted to de Brassie

from the days of the Conquest to the present time. If the new peer can substantiate that claim he should do so in the public interest, for it would gratify many of your readers to see that historical fact substantiated. I have myself tried in vain to do so, having gone carefully into the question in 1859, after a controversy I had with the late Mr Thomas Brassey. It is an honour to have descended from that gentleman, and, of course, a far greater one to have done so from the old de Brassies; but to make the latter valuable the evidence in support of the assumption should be beyond all dispute—otherwise it should not be asserted.

A CHESHIRE ANTIQVARIAN.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1886.

## Notes.

### PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY OF CHESHIRE.

#### XIV.

Our last paper (*ante* 122) concluded with the results of the elections in Cheshire to the second Parliament of George III. It was as follows:—

8, George III.

Met May 10, 1768. Dissolved September 30, 1774.

CHESHIRE.—Samuel Egerton, of Tatton, esq.  
John Crews, of Crewe, esq.

Date of election March 29, 1768.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.  
Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq.

At this period of English history, society, politically considered, appeared to be in a state of dislocation and those movements commenced which, after much agitation, produced, first the change of 1832, and subsequently the still more important ones of 1867 and 1885. The population of the kingdom was between eight and nine millions; of that number not 200,000 were electors; many of those never thought of an independent franchise, but voted as their landlords directed; and this not from any servile spirit, but because they really felt it was their duty to comply with the wishes of their superiors on matters of which they knew so little. This feeling placed the representation of the counties in the hands of the great landowners; and as a rule the question of who should be the county representative (?) was generally settled in a consultation between those gentlemen, as they well knew each other's strength. The representa-

tion of boroughs was divided between proprietors and electors. (*Hume* iii. 125.) Probably more money was never spent in election contests, and boroughs were never at a higher price.

On May 10, the day appointed for the assembling of the new Parliament, an immense multitude in St. George's Fields, expecting that Wilkes, the member for Middlesex, would be liberated and take his seat. When he did not appear the prison was attacked by the mob with the object of liberating the "Liberator," as he was termed. This and other acts resulted in the reading of the Riot Act, and the dispersing of the mob by the military. In this affray six persons were killed and fifteen wounded, the event being known in history as the "Massacre of St. George's Fields." Whilst these riots were taking place in St. George's Fields, large crowds assembled in the very neighbourhood of St. Stephen's, but did not proceed to any act of violence. In the Commons Sir John Cust (ancestor of the Cheshire family of that name) was re-elected Speaker, and the only bill introduced was one to continue the statutes respecting the exportation of wool and flour, when the Houses were prorogued on November 8.

Considering the interest that at this time (1886) is being taken in Irish affairs, it may not be out of place to take a brief glance, and see how they were hundred years ago. The English people and the English Parliament of the last century took little interest in the affairs of Ireland, which was an executive and a legislature entirely separate from and almost independent of those in London; many was looked upon in the light of a foreign country or at all events as having no nearer relation to be

land than her distant colonies. At that time the English Government had seriously directed its attention to the system by which the Irish legislature was influenced and its acts directed—a system which we cannot better describe than it has been already done in the pages of a history of that country. "There were," says the historian, "a certain number of leaders in the Irish House of Commons, who had each a certain number of dependants among the members, and who, by uniting, could at any time secure a majority in the House. These leaders had been gradually bought over, and were now all in the pay of the Court; and their rapacity for Court favours was increased to such a degree that it became difficult to satisfy them; while, if contented, they could always take their revenge by overthrowing the Court measures. These leaders were in the habit of stipulating with each new lord-lieutenant upon what terms they would carry the King's business through the House; and they required as a necessary condition of their alliance that the disposal of Court favours—such as places, pensions, or preferments—should pass through their hands, in order to keep their followers in a state of absolute dependance upon them. Each leader thus claimed, as a right, the privilege of gratifying his friends; and whenever these demands were not complied with the measures of the Government were immediately crossed and obstructed. Parliament was a sort of battle-field on which these different leaders contended for the power which would make them necessary to Government. It was the system of middle-men carried into the legislature." (*Wright's Ireland*, ii. 375.)

The next session of the English Parliament, which met November 8, 1768, was a long one, the two Houses not being prorogued until May 8, in the following year. The discussion upon the affairs of Wilkes and those of the threatened rebellion in America occupied the greater part of the six months, some of the debates—imperfect as are the reports which come down to us—appearing to be invested with great interest. In 1769 the strife of politics, the acerbity of party, and, in many cases, that of personal animosity, was increased by the publication of the celebrated *Letters of Junius*. Those letters excited more public attention, and had, at the time, more effect on public opinion than any other essays from the press had ever produced; whilst they gave rise to a controversy with respect to their author that even now, at the distance of over a century, is sometimes revived. The first letter appeared January 21, 1769, in the *Public Advertiser*, a daily paper published by Woodfall, and consisted of the most trenchant attacks upon the highest personages in the kingdom. The last of these letters—of which there were sixty-nine—was published in May, 1772, since which time they have been repeatedly printed as a British classic.

In the following year (1770) was a remarkable trial in which Richard, first Lord Grosvenor, at one time M.P. for Chester, was plaintiff, and the young Duke of Cumberland, the King's brother, the defendant. It would appear the Duke indulged in all the excesses of the young and wealthy of his day, in which he seduced Henrietta, Lady Grosvenor, to violate the sanctity of married life. For this Lord Grosvenor brought an action against the Duke, and obtained a verdict with £10,000 damages. Lord Grosvenor carried the matter still further, and obtained a divorce from his wife, who, it may be added, was the mother of Robert, first Marquis of Westminster.

The proclamation, announcing the dissolution of this the second Parliament of George III, was issued September 30, 1774; the new Parliament was to meet on November 29; and great excitement generally prevailed in the preparatory arrangements for the coming elections. On the following day Parliament was formally opened by the King in person, and who in his speech sounded the keynote of the coming war with America by expressing "Great concern at the daring spirit of resistance to the laws which had broken out in the province of Massachusetts Bay."

To this Parliament the representatives sent from Cheshire were:—

15, George III.

Met November 29, 1774. Dissolved September 1, 1780.

CHESHIRE.—Samuel Egerton, of Tatton, esq.

John Crewe, of Crewe, esq.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq.

The principal subject for debate in this Parliament was the attitude of the Americans, who had now declared for nothing short of independence, the declaration of which was signed July 4, 1776. It may be interesting to note that this declaration was largely founded on the principles respecting the freedom and independence of men, which were embodied in a pamphlet written by Tom Paine, who at that time was newly-settled at Philadelphia, and who had been engaged to edit the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, a journal advocating colonial rights.

On February 14, 1780, was issued a writ for the election of a representative to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr Samuel Egerton, of Tatton, one of the county members. This resulted in the return of—

1780.

CHESHIRE.—Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, bart.

To the great astonishment of the public, on September 1, 1780, Parliament was dissolved, it being considered expedient to ascertain the real state of public feeling respecting the policy of the Government. The elections caused very severe contests, and no less a



number than 113 new members were returned. Amongst them were some of the most remarkable men of the close of the eighteenth and the early part of the nineteenth centuries. Two of them were William Wilberforce, who was returned for Hull, his native town, and Richard Brinsley Sheridan, who was returned for Stafford. From Cheshire the old representatives were returned. These were:—

21, George III.

Met October 31, 1780. Dissolved March 25, 1784.

CHESHIRE.—Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, bart.  
John Crewe, of Crewe, esq.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.  
Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq.

At this time England was at war with many nations, including France, Spain, Holland, and America. As a consequence the budget was unusually heavy, and amounted to nearly 22½ millions sterling, the National Debt standing at £21,000,000.

In the autumn of 1781 the American War was brought to a close by the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, and that portion of the American continent now known as the United States was declared free from British rule. In the following year, 1782, was commenced an agitation for a reform in the representative system in the House of Commons, associations being formed in nearly every county throughout the kingdom. Supported by these manifestations of public opinion, Mr Pitt, on May 7, 1782, brought forward his motion for parliamentary reform in the House of Commons, but after an amended debate it was thrown out by 161 to 141. On the same date in 1783 it was again introduced, but again defeated by a majority of 144.

At a bye-election in 1782, Mr Richard Pepper Arden, then a promising Chancery lawyer, was elected as member for the borough of Newton. Aided by the friendship which existed between Pitt and himself, we find him taking office as solicitor-general in 1782, and again in 1783, and in the following year he became attorney-general and chief justice of Chester. In 1788 he succeeded Lord Kenyon as Master of the Rolls, receiving the honour of knighthood in June the same year. On the resignation of Pitt in 1801 Sir R. P. Arden accepted office as chief justice of the Common Pleas under Mr Addington, and in May the same year he was created Baron Alvanley. He married Anne Dorothea, daughter of Richard Wilbraham, of Bode, Cheshire, and died March 19, 1804, aged 59.

When Pitt took office in December, 1783, he was, as Earl Stanhope remarks, surrounded by formidable difficulties; "the greatest, perhaps, that any Prime Minister of England ever had to grapple with." The financial affairs of the kingdom were in disorder, our

foreign relations unsatisfactory; the nation clamouring for a reform in the representative system; and at the same time there was a large and compact majority in the House against the Government, led by Fox, North, Sheridan, and Burke. With the new year party strife rose to a high pitch, and a vote of want of confidence was passed upon the Government. On the 26th of January, Mr Thomas Grosvenor, the senior member for Chester, called a meeting of gentlemen of both parties, with the object of forming a coalition ministry, but after considerable discussion the negotiations broke off, and the project fell through. The majority against the Government continued to petition the King for the removal of certain ministers, but this he declined to do, ultimately preferring to take the sense of the people upon the changes that had been made. Parliament was therefore dissolved on March 25, 1784, the new Parliament being summoned to meet May 18, in the same year.

The result of the elections was that upwards of 14 supporters of the coalition lost their seats, being replaced by the supporters of Pitt. This 160 members were not inaptly termed "Fox's Martyrs," a name which has been applied to them from that time to the present. To this Parliament Cheshire sent:—

24, George III.

Met May 18, 1784. Dissolved June 12, 1790.

CHESHIRE.—Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, bart.  
John Crewe, of Crewe, esq.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.  
Richard Wilbraham Bootle, esq.

EDITOR.

#### CHESHIRE TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

Before me lies a quaint and curious little volume having the following on its title page:—

England | described : | or the Several | Counties & | Shires | thereof briefly handled. | Some things also | premised | to set | forth the Glory of this | Nation. | By Edward Leigh Esquire, Mr. of Arts | of Magdalen-Hall in Oxford. | London, | Printed by A. M. at Henry Marsh at the | Signe of the Princes-Arms in Chance- | ry-lane, near Fleetstreet, 1659.

Collocation: Title; Epistle Dedicatory vi; To the Candid Reader vii.; Prolegomena 28; Text, alphabetically arranged in counties with aide notes: 28; small 8vo.

Who the writer was, or whether he was in any way connected with the ancient families of that name residing in Cheshire it is impossible for me to say; suffice that he was a scholar and and well acquainted with the writers of his day. In this history the writer confines himself to England, and like Camden, traces of it in counties, but unlike that author, (who began with Cornwall and ends with Northumberland) Leigh arranges the counties in alphabetical order.

Below will be found a reproduction of the chapter concerning the county of Chester, the only alteration from the text being the substituting of "s" for "f" in the old style of spelling. It may not be out of place before giving the chapter relating to our county of Chester just to take a peep at the state of England at the time this book was written and printed.

Charles I. had been dead ten years, and the kingdom, under the Cromwells and the Commonwealth, was passing through a most trying period. When Oliver Cromwell died in 1658, just twelve months before, he left the country in the possession of that form of government which he sincerely deemed essential to truth and liberty, with his son Richard in power as Protector. Richard Cromwell, however, had no ambitions, either military or political. He had lived in domestic retirement, neither entering the field or the Cabinet, and as a ruler was not to be tolerated by such men as Sir Thomas Fairfax, Sir George Booth, Bradshaw, and others who were of his council. The result was that the famous Rump Parliament assumed the reins of Government, and at the time this book was in the hands of the printer had succeeded in effecting the resignation of the second Cromwell.

At this time, too, another eminent Cheshire man was playing his part in English history on the Continent. This was Chancellor Hyde, afterwards Lord Clarendon. For many years he had been fighting the battle of the Royal exiles almost single-handed, employing his enforced leisure in penning his famous *History of the Rebellion*, sometimes in France then in Holland. And now in 1659 he was just on the eve of seeing his long-cherished plans bear fruit, and his young master, the profligate Charles Stuart, afterwards Charles II., seated on the throne of his fathers.

Shakespeare had been dead but fifty years; Bunyan was still alive, as were also John Milton, Andrew Marvel, George Fox, Philip Henry, Judge Bradshaw, and others.

The most considerable ports in England at this time were, on the east side, Newcastle, Hull, Lynn, Yarmouth, Harwich, Colchester, and Sandwich; on the south side, Plymouth; and on the west, Chester. For the administration of justice the kingdom remained as divided into six circuits by Henry II. In the sixth circuit were included the counties of York, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Lancaster, whilst Cheshire by reason of its being a county Palatine was a circuit of itself, having its own peculiar judges and counsellors.

Having said so much as to the condition of the country at the time this topographical history was written and published, let us see what the author has to say with respect to our county of Chester.

CHESHIRE.

*Cheshire* chief of men; *Lancashire* fair women.—King of Cheshire.

It is very pleasant and plenteous in all things needful for man's use, and therefore had the name of *Vale Royal of England* from Edward the First.

The Grasse and Fodder there is of that goodnesse and vertue, that Cheeses are made there in great number, of a most pleasing and delicate taste, such as all *England* again affordeth not the like; no, though the best dayriewomen otherwise, and skilfullest in Chees-making be had from hence.

This Region hath alwayes bred more Gentry than the other Countreys in *England*: For you have not in all *England* again any one Province beside, that in old time either brought more valorous Gentlemen into the field, or had more families in it of Knights degree.

The *Breretons*, *Manwearings*, and *Venables* are the most noble Families in that County.

On the South-side it is hemmed in with *Shropshire*, on the East-side with *Staffordshire* and *Derbyshire*, on the North with *Lancashire*, and on the West with *Denbigh* and *Flintshire*.

The River *Dee*, called in Latine *Deva*, breeding very great plenty of *Salmons*, ariseth out of two fountains in *Wales*, and therout men think it took the name: for *Dwy* in their tongue signifieth two.

Yet *Banchor* is in *Flintshire*. This River no sooner is entered into *Cheshire*, but it passeth by *Banchor*, a famous Monastery. It fostered and brought up (as some write) the most

wicked Arch-heretique *Pelagius*, who injuriously derogating from the grace of God, troubled a long time the west Church with his pestiferous Doctrines. *Prosper Aquitanus* in this Verse of his, termeth him the *British Adder*,

*Pestifero vomuit coluber sermone Britanus.*  
A *British Snake*, with venomous tongue,  
Hath vomited his poison strong.  
Chester\* or West-Chester of the West situation.

*Cestria de castris nomen quasi castra sumfit.*

This city built in form of a quadrant, four square, is enclosed with a wall that taketh up more than two miles in compass, and hath eleven Parishes.

Neer the River standeth the Castle upon a rocky Hill, built by the Earls: where the Courts Palatine, and the Assizes, as they call them, are kept twice a year.

The Houses are very fair built, and along the chief streets are Galleries or Walking-places, they call them *Rows*, having shops on both sides, through which a man may walk dry from one end to another.

It is called the County Palatine of *Chester*, because the Earls thereof had Royalties and Princely priviledges belonging to them, and all the Inhabitant owed Allegiance and Fealty to them as they did to the King.

One *Hugh Wolf* was made Earl of *Chester* by *William* the First, and the Countv given him in *Fer. Tenuend sibi & Hereditabz it a vere ad Gladium sicut ipse Rex tenebat Angliam ad Coenam*. And as the King, so he for his Heirs had their Barons, by that name specially known.

King *Edgar* in magnificent manner triumphed over the *British Princes*. For

*Cestria*  
*Episcopalis*  
*magnifica, &*  
*celeberrima*  
*Angliz urbs,*  
*amplitude,*  
*superbo ad-*  
*ficiorum ni-*  
*lore, & cul-*  
*tiffimorum*  
*hortorum ele-*  
*gantia com-*  
*mentata, duo*  
*passuum*  
*millia, in cir-*  
*cuitu colligit.*  
*Ecclesias*  
*Parochiales*  
*novem, &*  
*Cathedralem*  
*elegantem ex-*  
*hibet, præter*  
*loc a alia*  
*facra, ut hos-*  
*pitalia, & no-*  
*socomia reli-*  
*gionis mun-*  
*cupata.*  
*Georgius*  
*Bruin.*  
*Theat. Ur-*  
*bium præci-*  
*puarum to-*  
*tius mundi.*

sitting himself in a Barge at the fore-deck, *Kennadie* King of the Scots, *Malcolme* King of Cumberland, *Macon* King of Mann, and of the Islands, with all the Princes of *Wales*, brought to do homage, and like Watermen working at the Oar, rowed him along the River *Dee*, in a triumphant shew, to his great glory, and joy of the beholders.

King *Henry* the Seventh made it a County by It self incorporate.

*Bunbury* contractly so called, or *Boniface-Bury*, *Boniface* was the Patron Saint there.

*Beeston*-Castle hath a wall of a great circuit.

Here are the famous Salt-pits, or Salt-wiches, five or six miles distant asunder, where brine or salt water is drawn out of the pits, which they boile over the fire, to make salt thereof. These were known unto the *Romanes*, and from hence was usually paid the Custome for Salt, called *Salarium*.

*Nantwich*, *Middle-wich*, *Northwich*.

*Nantwich*, which the River *Weaver* first visiteth, is reputed the greatest and fairest built Town of this Shire after *Chester*. It is called *White-wich* or *Salt-pit*, because the whitest salt is there boiled.

*North-wich* is called the Black-salt pit.

*Congleton* a Mercat Town, famous for Gloves, Purses, and Points of Leather.

*Kinderton* the old seat of the ancient race of the *Venables*, who ever since the first coming of the *Normans* have been of name and reputation here, and commonly are called Barons of *Kinderton*.

*Brereton* hath given name to the worshipfull, ancient and numerous Family of the *Breretons* Knights.

Before any Heir of this House of the *Breretons* dieth, there are seen in a Pool adjoining, bodies of trees swimming for certaine dayes together, so *Camden*, but some deny this.

*Middle-wich*, there are two Wels of salt water parted one from the other by a small brook

*Macclesfield* one of the fairest Towns of this County.

*Lee* from whence there is a Family bearing the same surname, that is not only of gentle blood, and of especial note, but also farre and fairly propagated into a number of branches.—*Camd Britan*.

*High Leigh* in *Cheshire*, I think gave Names to all the renowned Races of that Name in this County. Two distinct Descents of the same name have their seats in the same place, and there have continued in a long succession of their Ancestors, Knights, and Esquires of much worth: one is *Thomas Leigh*, the other is *Peter Leigh* Esquires.—*King of Cheshire*.

*Lime* in *Cheshire* a great Family of the Name of the *Leighs*, of whom there have been many famous Knights, Sir *Peter* now the Possessor thereof.—*King of Cheshire*.

Nor thou magnanimous Leigh must be In darkness, for thy rare fidelity; [left To save thy faith, content to lose thy head: That reverent head, of good men honored.

—*Daniels Second Book of Civil Warres*.  
*Cholmundeaton* or *Cholmeston* anciently the Lands of the *Leighs* of *Rushall* in

Staffordshire.—*King of Cheshire*.  
It containeth this *March* town and sixty eight *Manors*.  
FRHS.

## Replies.

### THE BULKELEYS OF BULKELEY, CHESHIRE

Mr Tucker, Somerset Herald, has written the following letter to the *Standard* on the above matter:—

Sir,—Mr Owen T. Bulkeley, of Lystonville, "as a descendant of the ancient and distinguished family of the Bulkeleys of Cheshire," expresses, for himself and "on the part of others, his illustrious" kindred, astonishment and indignation that Sir Thomas Brassey, "an absolute stranger by birth and name," should lay claim to the title of Bulkeley, to which, he asserts, he has no possible right being the "sacred and treasured heirloom" of Mr Owen T. Bulkeley, of Lystonville, and others.

It so happens that Sir Thomas Brassey had, from the first, no intention of calling himself anything but Lord Brassey of Bulkeley—content to date his pedigree, as he dated his fortune, to a father whose memory he holds in affectionate reverence. But had he chosen to style himself Bulkeley of Bulkeley, I venture to say he could have shown a better right to that title than any one living—against which all the protests, the astonishment, and the indignation of Mr Owen T. Bulkeley, of Lystonville, and others would have been vented in vain.

I am one of many not unacquainted with genealogical who consider the comparatively meagre dignities of Viscount Bulkeley of Casbel, in the Peerage of Ireland, and Baron Bulkeley of Beaumaris to be entitled. Were they, however, admittedly but dormant claimant to a Peerage conferred on a Welsh cadet branch of the Bulkeleys of Bulkeley could challenge success Sir Thomas Brassey's right to style himself by the name of a property which has been in his family since 1400, and possessed by him, and from which the old Bulkeleys derived their name. The heirship-general of these old Bulkeleys was vested in the Brasseys, who became and were called Bulkeley of Bulkeley, and twice subsequently in the direct line married with the Bulkeleys of Bickerton. Mr Owen T. Bulkeley, of Lystonville, and others must go back to the time of Edward I. to prove a prior claim to the title.

It is a common error to assume that "self-made" men have no family history. I could quote instances that would go far to establish the contrary view, the energy of character, integrity, and success in the qualities traceable to good breeding, although innate in the lowliest born of our fellow creatures. In the matter of fact, however, the late Mr Brassey's descent from the thirteenth century is not only absolutely proveable, but has been recorded from time to time in college, ever since the first visitation of Cheshire. I may add, the right of his family to quarter the arms of Bulkeley was admitted, and as he was, and his son, Bulkeley," and Mr Owen T. Bulkeley, of Lystonville, and others are not, and as none of the ennobled cadets ever were, I hope your correspondent will see how he misunderstands and misrepresents facts, and the

is due to Sir Thomas Brassey (Lord Brassey of  
—*Alfred*—whom, though having myself no sympathy for  
at or occasion of his acceptance of it, I can but re-  
as well fitted for Peerage dignity, as a man highly  
educated and accomplished, of great honesty of purpose and  
character, the possessor of ample means, and (for what it  
may be worth, associated with such solid qualifications) of  
family as ancient and well-allied as that of nine-tenths of  
the existing nobility.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

STEPHEN TUCKER, *Somerset Herald*.

So far as we are concerned it does not much matter  
what line Mr Owen Bulkeley may have derived from,  
or does Mr Tucker meet the point we are naturally  
desirous of receiving information upon. No doubt a  
family of the name of Brassey intermarried with the  
Ulkeleys, and hence the granting of arms alluded to  
by him. When did the immediate predecessors of Sir  
Thomas Brassey register their descents in the  
College of Arms? Which of them did so? I am told  
that neither his grandfather nor great grandfather had  
done that, and it is easy enough, therefore, to fill  
up omissions, just as our fancy may dictate to us.  
Lord Brassey as done wisely to adopt his own father's  
name as his title, and the less his friends say about the  
Brasseys the less ground will be left for cavil. Mr  
Tucker might do a service if he gave a list of Brasseys  
mentioned in the first and subsequent Cheshire  
visitations, and say who certified the entries, and when.

A CHESHIRE ANTIQUARY.

Last evening I saw once again the never-ending  
on-fact set forth that the eminent Thomas Brassey  
began life as a navvy.' The Cockneys seem to revel  
in this sort of trash; and although here in Cheshire  
everyone ought to know better, I have been surprised  
to find how the iteration and reiteration of this falsity

has had its effects on the minds even of Cestrains, and  
in common talk among acquaintances I have had to  
contradict it at least fifty times. For nearly as many  
years I had the privilege of intimately knowing that  
truly great man. By birth son of a Cheshire yeoman  
of the better class, by education, by appearance, by  
manners, and by every habit of mind and body a  
thorough gentleman, Thomas Brassey was eminently  
fitted for any elevation to adventitious rank, which he  
never cared for. The admirable inscription in the  
orient south aisle apse at Chester Cathedral, which  
was restored and dedicated by his three sons to his  
noble memory, is fitted to describe him in those terms  
of happy terseness to be found only in Holy Writ,  
'Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall  
stand before kings.' This is what Thomas Brassey  
literally and frequently did; as the Emperor Napoleon  
III. and *Il Re Galantuomo* Italy could have told us,  
and as Sir Arthur Helps has well told us. I could  
have helped Sir Arthur with a good many characteris-  
tic touches of Mr Brassey's beautiful life and charac-  
ter, and I may some time ask leave to reproduce a  
reminiscence or two. Let me now mention an ap-  
parently minor point elucidative of early and life-long  
refinement of habit—his beautiful and rapid cali-  
graphy, and his unmatched terseness in letter writing.  
I will now try to imitate the latter quality, and will  
finish with a single sentence. While Thomas Brassey,  
cared for no distinction for himself, he would have  
been proud of his son's well-deserved peerage; but he  
would have been most proud of all of that son's word  
the other day:—'In being allowed to choose my future  
title, I wish for no name but that of my father, to  
whom I owe everything.'

JOHN WILSON, L.L.D.

Congleton, August 13th, 1886.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

The old theatre in the park answered the pur-  
poses of Mr John Gudgeon and the other members  
of the Mechanics' Institute admirably for a number  
of years. Their exhibitions, lectures, tea parties,  
and other attractions which were brought before  
the public in quick succession, were the means of  
ringing the society before the public, and the  
cause of many young men becoming members of this  
noble institute for study and learning. The tea  
parties got up by these young men, and held in the

old theatre, were amongst the most enjoyable  
gatherings I ever attended. The edibles were the  
choicest which could be purchased—tin meat and  
American ham sandwiches were unknown then—  
and the tables were superintended by a number of  
Stockport's fairest daughters, while the young men  
vied with each other as to which could make the  
best speech. A trio of glee singers, consisting of  
Messrs Joseph Meadows, John Greenhalgh, and  
James Whittaker, were engaged to sing at these  
parties on several occasions. These tea parties,  
exhibits, and lectures on the various arts and  
sciences, were very pleasing and instructive, as far  
as theory went, but a number of the young men

wished to receive practical lessons in the various subjects which had been brought before them. In the old theatre there were only two rooms which could be used as class-rooms. These were the old green rooms, where the actors formerly prepared themselves before going on the stage. The directors saw that they must either alter the old theatre to their requirements or look out for more suitable premises. Fowden House was tenantless at this time, and after being viewed by the directors they concluded that it was the place which would answer the requirements of the members of the Mechanics Institute, and they decided that it should be their future meeting place. Fowden House was a large mansion which stood on the site now occupied by the Reform Club, Lower Hillgate. Why this mansion was called Fowden House I could never learn. My own idea is that it was originally the dwelling of the Fowden family, who last were drapers in the Market-place in the early part of the present century. Fowden House much resembled the Mansion House, both in size and architecture, and appeared to have been built about the same time, that is between the years 1715 and 1730, when most of the large dwellings in this neighbourhood were built. When Fowden House was first erected I believe there would be no buildings in the immediate front except some low thatched dwellings, similar to the one which is now occupied by Mrs Gordon, stay and corset maker, next door but one to the Spread Eagle Inn. There are a few of this class of houses still standing on the east side of this ancient London road, called the Hillgate. If my hypothesis is right, the first occupants of Fowden House would have had a fine view of the beautiful valley in front, which has been extolled by several ancient writers. When I first saw this mansion, about the year 1823, it was occupied by the Swain family, comprising father and mother, two daughters, and one son, named Isaac, who built the house now occupied by the widow of the late Doctor Goddard. At my earliest recollection Fowden House was surrounded by a number of heterogeneous buildings. At the back was an old cotton mill, which prepared slubbing for the jenny spinners. At the back, a little to the north, stood "Crabb Chapel," which was built early in the last century, and was the worshipping place of the sect called Unitarians. Nothing but the graveyard now remains of this once-popular place of worship. The remains of many of our Stockport worthies lie in this obscure graveyard, one of the last interred there being Mr Ralph Orrell, the founder of Travis Brook Mill, which was acknowledged at the time to be the most complete

and the finest cotton mill in the kingdom, or even in the world. The chimney of this mill, which is built on a high rock about a hundred yards from the mill, was considered a novel achievement, so much so that the proprietors of the *Illustrated London News* inserted a drawing of the mill in their wide-spread and popular paper. A little to the north of "Crabb Chapel" was another meeting place or chapel, where met a peculiar sect of worshippers, whom I have dwelt upon in a former paper. A little farther north still was the residence and pleasure grounds of Mr Worsley, once an opulent banker in Stockport. Worsley's Court in this neighbourhood still perpetuates his name. On the west side of High-street from Fowden House to the Mansion House was once a favourite dwelling place for some of our wealthiest families. On the south side of Fowden House stood several shops and cottages, which were pulled down to make way for the new road called Wellington-street. In the year 1823 Mr Goulden, a well-known surgeon, resided in one of these cottages. A misunderstanding took place between the doctor and his house-keeper, or wife (I don't know which), and she, to have her revenge of him, whilst he was out attending to his numerous patients, emptied his stock of medicine into the channel at the front of Mr Goulden's door. I was a lad, and was coming down the Hillgate at the time that this virago was pouring forth her vengeance in this singular manner. Mr Walter Phillips, joiner and builder, resided in one of these cottages, and had his joiner's shop behind Fowden House. This joiner's shop was burnt down, and its site is now covered by a printing establishment. Fowden House answered the purposes of the members of the Mechanics' Institute very well. They were not short of class-rooms there, but whilst it was a benefit to the members I consider it was a loss to the town at large, for we were debarred from listening to the instructive lectures and attending the splendid exhibitions which took place in the old theatre, and which have never been surpassed since. The Stockport Choral Society, which held its meetings in the Stockport Sunday School, were prohibited practising secular music in that institution. A few of the members of the Stockport Choral Society—Messrs Charles Swain and Abel Leach being the principals—instituted a new musical society, the members of which could practice what class of music they thought fit, and they held their meetings in Fowden House. This new musical society had a very short life, but, I believe, it was the means of a similar society being established in Cheadle. The members of the Mechanics' Institute

held their meetings in Fowden House about eleven years. During that time they experienced very much the want of a lecture hall, and the directors concluded to have a building of their own. By their exertions, with the aid of a number of influential gentlemen of Stockport, the beautiful building in Wellington-road South was erected and opened to be public in the year 1862. This institution has been a great boon to Stockport, and I hope it may ever continue to be so.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

#### THE LIFE OF SAMUEL EATON.

##### IV.

A considerable number of the Dukinfield congregation were resident in and around Stockport, and for convenience, Eaton frequently conducted religious services in the Grammar School of that town. Ultimately this was made his head quarters. Both places were carried on by the teacher, pastor, and their assistants. The final removal to Stockport took place before the end of 1653, and is said to have been accelerated by the intolerable behaviour of the "bitter and presumptuous" gifted persons in the church at Dukinfield, "the best of whom were many degrees below him" (31). Their overbearing behaviour drove the worthy Mr Taylor from them about the year 1650.

The unoffending Martindale at Rostherne was troubled with the same characters, and sought Eaton's assistance against them, but without satisfaction he tells us (32). The army was a nursery of noxious heresies. "Some were Milenarians, some Fifty Monarchy men, some Arminians, some Socinians, and some strange compounds of these heresies in different proportions" (33). In the year 1653, some of these opinions infected the people at Dukinfield. Mr Eaton "thining to search the sore to the bottome, propounded a good large number of questions for his people to answer." These questions along with appropriate answers were published by Martindale, as "*An Andidote Against the Poyson of the Times*" (34).

It is not improbable that about this time Eaton took up his residence in the township of Bredbury; most likely in the house of his friend Arderne, at Harden. It is evident that his brethren knew that they could find him there; for Henry Newcome in his diary, under date May 29, 1655, says that after preaching at Mottram, "The next day I called at Harding, of Mr Eaton who had then lately returned from Ireland, and precious Mr Murcot was then just dead, and he told me of the precious name and savour he had left behind him" (p 55).

Wood sneeringly informs us that while at Stockport

Eaton "feathered his nest and was held in wonderful esteem by the faction" (35). Other authorities more impartial than this lead us to the belief that his life there was mainly composed of trials and difficulties. Calamy says that "some of the people here ran things to a mighty height, and grew wiser than their minister, so that they created him abundance of difficulty."

Eaton's earliest difficulties at Stockport sprang from another and a new quarter. George Fox, the founder of Quakerism, visited this district about this time, and made many converts from amongst Eaton's people at Stockport, Dukinfield, &c. A dispute arose between the two parties in 1653, under the following circumstances:—One Richard Waller (36), "a servant in a gentleman's house near Stopport, and a Quaker, had made an offer of marriage to a member of Eaton's congregation, a woman servant in the same house." The union was very hotly opposed by her friends in the church on account of some defamatory report bearing on the character of Waller. Of course, notwithstanding this opposition, the marriage took place. Shortly afterwards Waller wrote a letter to a family of note and quality in the county (? the Ardernes), pleading for perfection among the saints in this life, and also for Quaking, quoting Scripture to prove his positions. This he followed up by delivering to the church a paper of questions relating to the principles of the Society of Friends, with a request for an answer (37). Eaton replied in a work called "*The Quakers Confuted*, being an answer Unto Nineteen Queries; Propounded by them, and sent to the Elders of the Church of Duckenfield, in Cheshire; wherein is held forth much of the Doctrine and Practice Concerning Revelations and immediate Voices, and against the Holy Scriptures, Christ's Ministry, Churches, and Ordinances, &c., together with an answer to a Letter which was written and sent by one of them to a Family of Note and Quality in the said County, which pleaded for perfection in this life and for Quaking. By Samuel Eaton, Teacher of the Church of Christ, heretofore meeting at Duckenfield, now in Stockport in Cheshire" (London). 1564

This book was dedicated "To the Supream Authority of the Nation, the Parliament now sitting in Westminster." A further reply thereto was issued the same year, entitled "*An Answer to a Book which Samuel Eaton put up to the Parliament, &c.*" The latter volume is said to abound in the vilest personalities and abuse, of which one or two examples will

35. *Athenæ Oxonienses*, vol. III., p. 672.

36. These quotations are from the preface to "*The Quakers Confuted* &c."

37. This paper was entitled "*The Quaker's Queries for some friends who call themselves Elders of the Church of Christ, meeting at Stopport, from some friends of the truth in Lancashire whom the world calls Quakers.*" Urwick Noncon in Cheshire,

31. *Martindale Diary*, p. 74.

32. *Autobiography*, p. 107.

33. *Halley's Lancashire: Its Puritanism, &c.*, II., 85.

34. *Autobiography*, p. 110.

suffice: "O, Eaton, thou liar! O, thou liar! Doth Satan transform himself into ministers of righteousness? . . . Here I charge thee in the presence of Christ to be a liar. O, thou dark sot!" Eaton's book on the contrary is fairly and temperately argued.

In 1654 Lieutenant Edward Harper and Ensign Arnold Baxter, on behalf "of the Church of God in Stopford," addressed the Protector in favour of Samuel Eaton. They state in their petition that God had gathered together many of His people in fellowship, and had provided for them Samuel Eaton, who had been pastor there and at Dukinfield ten years, and was a famous instrument for conversion and building up; but taxes and other losses prevented them doing as they would like for him, or even continuing the small sum they had been in the habit of allowing him. They go on to say that the State already granted him £40 a year, (38) which they complain of as too small a salary, as many younger men received £100 per annum, and few as little as £40, unless some addition was made thereto by the congregation. They therefore asked for an addition to Eaton's salary (39). This request was not granted until three years later, when the following order in council was passed:—

Thursday, 7 April, 1659.—At the Councell at Whitenall, ordered by his Highness the Lord Protector and the Councell, that it be recommended to the Trustees for maintenance of ministers to settle such a further augmentation on Mr Eaton, minister of Stopford, in the County of Chester, as shall compleat the augmentation formerly settled to One Hundred Pounds, and for his better encouragement and maintenance.

W. JESSOP, Clk, of ye Councell.

Considerable unpleasantness appears to have arisen with respect to certain grants of public money to the church at Stockport; and the latest pamphlet by (or relating to) Eaton is in connection with this affair. It would appear from the tracts on the subject that certain sums of money had been given to the Dukinfield Church by Col. Venables, and it was alleged that this money had been appropriated to his own use. The matter seems to have been investigated by a committee of ministers and messengers of several Congregational churches meeting at Manchester, and certificates signed by them clearing Eaton of the charge made

38. May 7, 1652. In pursuance of an order of the Committee for Reformation of the Universities of the 13th June 1651, it is ordered that the yearly sum of Forty Pounds be and the same is hereby granted to Mr Samuel Eaton, minister of Duckingfield, in the County of Chester, the same to be accompted from March 25, 1651, his present maintenance being the voluntary contribution of the People.

JO. THOROWGOOD, RICH. YONG,  
JO. BROWNE, JO. POCOCKE,  
W. STEELE,

(Heginbotham's *Stockport Ancient and Modern II.*, p. 17, from *Lambeth MS.*)

39. Mr J. E. Bailey in the *Manchester City News*, Oct. 18, 1884.

against him. A pamphlet was written by Robert Edgway and John Bruckshaw (40) reflecting seriously upon Mr Eaton, "an elder and their teaching (sic)." Eaton replied in a pamphlet entitled:

A Reply unto a Pamphlet, entitled, "An Answer to certain Certificates, serving to vindicate Mr Samuel Eaton's righteousness in receiving two summes of money, wherein the foulness, falseness, and scandalousness of the answer is made to appear by the Elders, Deacons, and many of the Members of the Church of Christ, commonly called the Church of Duckenfield, meeting in Sopp, London, 1658. 64 pp. (41).

From these little books the information is gathered that Eaton had an estate of upwards of £40 per annum with his wife; and also that the Lord Protector had on one occasion summoned him to Scotland and had "nobly rewarded him." His elders and deacons affectionately state that he "had invitations to preach in great and publique places, and offers of hundreds made unto him, where he might have had applause and profit, and yet hath rather chosen to sit down in a corner with a few despised ones, and to accept of small things than to leave us." (42)

One of the foremost endeavours of Cromwell and the Parliamentary party during the Commonwealth period was so to reform public worship, that while it might have liberty of conscience and of preaching, none who were considered "scandalous, ignorant, or insufficient" should hold appointments in the Church. A commission of *Triers* was instituted for the trial and approval of all persons aspiring to serve in the offices of religion. A similar commission of *Expurgers* was established whose duty it was to inquire into and eject such ministers as were "scandalous, ignorant, or insufficient." Adversaries like Baxter were too busy to say that under this system much good was done to the Church.

Samuel Eaton was one of the assistant commissioners for these purposes for the county of Chester, and that capacity took part in the examination of Edward Newcome on his presentation to the living at Stockport (43). The formal approbation of Newcome

40. Probably of Harrytown, Bredbury.

41. See Barwaker's *East Cheshire II.*, p. 33; to which is also indebted for valuable and full information as to the writings of this divine.

42. *Ibid.*

43. The Commission for the Examination of Newcomers was so interesting that I give it in full.

*Beloved Brethren.*—Whereas, Mr Henry Newcome, minister of the Gospel at Manchester, in the County of Lancashire, hath a grant to a presentation to the place aforesaid, and therefore, to be approved of by us (but cannot conveniently come to us) in person. We do, therefore, hereby desire that any three of you, being together to receive and concerning him such a certificate as is mentioned in the ordinance for approbation of public preachers; and being satisfied with the sufficiency of such certificate, to make such a trial of the said person, concerning the grace of God in him.

come took place at Stockport January 9th, 1657. Speaking of this period, Wood says that "he was an assistant to the Commissioners of Cheshire for the ejection of such whom the godly called scandalous, ignorant, and insufficient ministers and schoolmasters, and became a most pestilential leading person in the trade of faction in the said county and in Lancashire" (44). This is the language of an enemy. It is sufficient to know that he was exceedingly popular as a man and a preacher amongst both his Presbyterian and Independent brethren, and that persons in the highest authority recognised the value of his services.

The course of a few years materially lessened the reach at first existing between Independents and Presbyterians. Both parties were dissatisfied, though in different degrees, with the course of the political affairs of the nation. Both were filled with hatred, not only to Episcopacy, but to the numerous forms of error that had sprung up around them. Considerations of this nature naturally led to a desire for union on the part of those who differed only in matters of discipline. To this end conferences were held in the college at Manchester, and on July 13th, 1659, a number of *Propositions for Accommodation* were agreed upon, and signed by Eaton and six of his Independent brethren and fourteen Presbyterian ministers. The questions of the qualifications and character of church members, the services of gifted brethren, the mutual exchange of services, and the settlement of disputes were satisfactorily arranged. The eighth article of agreement was as follows:—

We also agree that we will lay to heart all our unnecessary and unbrotherly carriages, engage in this accommodation in all unfeigned love and steadfast resolution, and lay aside, to our utmost, all words and carriages that may violate or prejudice our Christian commission.

The success of this happy arrangement was effectually ruined by the breaking out of the *Cheshire rising* under Sir George Booth in the same year. Some of the Presbyterian signatories to the above propositions were in the secret during the progress of the negotiations leading up to them. Most of the leading members of that body were parties to the movement. After the defeat of Sir George Booth at Winnington, near Nantwich, by General Lambert, the im-

partial knowledge and utterance for preaching the Gospel, as you shall think fit. Upon all which, being assisted in your judgements that he is a fit person to be proved of by us, then to signify so much unto us under our hands, and therewith to send up the aforesaid certificate. So forbearing further to trouble you, we take our leave, committing you to the Lord.

Signed by the appointment of the Commissioners for probation of Public Preachers.

Whitehall, Dec. 26, 1656. Io. NYE, Regr.  
To the Rev. Mr Richard Heyrick, Mr Samuel Eaton, Mr John Angier, and Mr John Harrison, or any of them.  
See Halley's *Noncon in Lanc.* ii., 500, &c.  
A. Athenæ Oxon., vol. iii., p. 672.

plicated and defenceless ministers of Manchester were in great terror. Lilburne was approaching the town from Yorkshire, and they expected he would wreak vengeance upon them. In this strait Eaton, as one having influence with the authorities, was sought as a mediator. Martindale at this time writes in his diary:—

After I had wept plentifully over the dangerous case of some of my dear friends whom I found in Manchester expecting the sad event (though my constitution is not apt to tears), I engaged Mr Shelmadine, of Mottram, to go with me to Mr Samuel Eaton to see if we could engage him to make use of his interest in Lambert, to prevent, if possible, the effusion of Christian blood. This he liked not, but said he had been spoken to formerly to go to London to the Parliament in order of peace, but some in Chester were averse to it, and had slighted him (45), and now it was too late for such a journey, an armie being upon its march and drawing neare to us (46).

When the worst came, however, the influence which Eaton and other Independents were enabled to use resulted in the exercise of every possible leniency towards the Presbyterian ministers.

The restoration of the Stuarts was not long delayed, and when it came, in 1660, Eaton, like many others, was enveloped in a dark cloud of persecution. On the passing of the Act of Uniformity, two years later, he was one of the 2000 ministers who declined to take the oath therein prescribed, and who were in consequence silenced and ejected from their preferments. The only details of his life after this dismal event are again to be found in Wood's compilation, which tells us that being silenced and forced from Stockport "he carried on the trade of conventicling in private, and was thereupon brought several times into trouble and imprisoned." (47) In this time of defection his home was at Bredbury, probably, as I have suggested before, at Harden Hall. The old carved pulpit existing until recently at that place, and upon whose beauties some old people expatiate so provokingly, may have been the rostrum from which he expounded the Scriptures and instructed his people. With this relic the name of the Protector was commonly associated; and it is not impossible that in the course of time the name of Cromwell may have been substituted in the tradition for that of his zealous friend and supporter.

Samuel Eaton died on the 9th of January, 1664-5, and was buried in John Angier's Chapel, at Denton, (48) on the 12th of the same month. The following entry appears in the Stockport registers:—1664-5, Jan.

45. This affair is referred to by Newcome. *Autobiography* pp. 110, 114.

46. Life of Martindale (c.s. vol. iv), p. 139.

47. Athenæ Oxon., vol. iii., p. 672.

48. See Newcomes *Autobiography*, p. 155.

49. Later in the same year "Samuel Eaton, of Bredbury" was disclaimed as gentleman at Chester, i.e., as one not capable of bearing arms.



Samuell Eaton, of Bredburie, minister, was buried on the 18th day." (49)

His funeral sermon was preached, at his own request, by the Rev. Oliver Heywood, from the text at Job xix., 25-27, "I know that my Redeemer liveth, &c." A few details of his life may be gleaned from this discourse. The preacher said: "This portion of scripture he fitly pitched upon as a believer, one that had drank of Job's cup of affliction and consolation. He drank in large measure of Job's cup of affliction; he was much afflicted in his estate in the time of the former bishops; he was so afflicted in his body, liberty, friends, good name, oft times and many ways troubled and grieved in his spirit. Among his many afflictions I observed that two especially affected his spirits. One, the great wrong that was done him in his good name, not by enemies but friends. . . . The other was the loss of speech, whereby he was unfitted to serve God and His church as formerly; yet when the Lord had humbled him and proved him, he cleared his innocence, and restored to him some measure of usefulness. Blessed be His name, he drank of Job's cup of consolation, he had the testimony of his conscience on his side; when he was afflicted, accused, and reproached, he knew the grounds of his comfort, and had grace given him to apply the same, and therewith to comfort himself, as Job did, in the midst of, and above all his afflictions, as appears in the most full and comfortable profession of his faith; he did fitly pitch upon this portion of scripture to be spoken of to the church after his decease. If we consider him as a minister of the gospel, hereby he took a course that the church might be put in mind of the doctrine he preached, which he believed, professed, lived, and died in, that they might be encouraged in their faith, profession, and practice of it." (50)

His will, which was first printed by Mr Earwaker (51) is as follows:—

"I, Samuel Eaton, of Bradbury, in the parish of Stopford, county Chester, preacher of the word of God. . . . I doe commend my soule unto the handes of God reconciled and become a father unto mein Jesus Christ my Lord and my body unto the earth to see buried in a comby and decent manner. . . . And first I doe give and bequeath the rent of 85 pound<sup>s</sup> per annum which Edward Glegge of the Grange, Esq., in Werrall, county Chester, is to pay yearly while mine owne and my wife's life shall continue or the survivor of them as by Articles of Agreement will appear, unto my dear wife to whom in right it doth belong after my decease during her life and because there is of right b-lonking to mesome lands of 10 pounds per annum at first and hereafter

50. This Sermon is printed in full in O. Heywood's Works, vol. 5, p. 509 *et seq.*, from Dr Rippon, Baptist Annual Register, vol. iv., p. 558.

51. East Cheshire, II., p. 33, 4.

of more money, to be paid to me I doe will and appoint the payment hereof after my decease unto Ales [Alice] my dear wife soe long as she shall live together with the arrears of the same. And after her decease I doe give and convey either the same rent which is now in the hands of Mr Peter Lancaster or the land itselfe unto Theophylus Eaton, living in the city of Dublin, son to Theophylus Eaton, Esquire, now deceased, or to his children.

"And my will is and I do bequeath unto Mary Ed eldest daughter to my brother Theophylus Eaton, £10; and to Hanna Jones the younger daughter of my brother Theophylus Eaton, £10; to my cuzen Mary Low, daughter to my sister Low, £5, which are now in New England. Also to Hanna Parmoth daughter to my sister Hanna Parke £5; to Priscilla and Eliza the two daughters of my sister Priscilla Downes, £5 each; also to the child of Sara another daughter of my sister Downes 40s. And also to my cuzen Mary Massey daughter of Mary Massey deceased and daughter to my sister Priscilla Downes, £5. And in like manner unto the children of my sister Hanna Parke which she had by Mr Robert Parke, £5. Alexander Low son to my sister Low, 20 marks."

"And also I doe give and bequeath to Mr Anger and John Naylor of Warrington and to Peter Hargrave the sum of one hundred pounds for such ends and purposes as hereafter followeth, viz, I doe give and bequeath fiftie pounds to all such poor ministers who are put by their places and are in a distressed condition, and also I doe give and bequeath fiftie pounds upon other distressed saints. And concerning the residue of mine estate I doe give and bequeath to my lady Sara Houghton, (52) 20s in gold; also to Mr Duckenfield 20s in gold. And also I do give to Mr John Arderne, Ortelius Maps, and to Mr Robert Birtch of Denton, Durham on the Revelation and his book of Scandall. And to Mr Anger 40s; and to Mr Newcom, to Mr Root and to Mr Thomas Jollie, and to Mr Brisks and to Mr Harrison sometimes of Ashton, and to Mr Robert Birtch, and to Mr Martindale and to Mr Brewerton and to Mr Bates of Warrington and to Mr Robert Eaton of Denham, and to Mr Jones sometimes of Eccles, and to Mr Lee of Gorton and to Mr Walker sometimes of Neston and to Mr Holland and Mr Jolly in these parts, and to Mr Slater sometimes of Hargreave and to Master Hargreave, and to Mr Constantine, and to Mr Shelman and to Mr Cooke and to Mr Willson to each of them twenty shillings. And likewise to Thomas Glegg 40s, to James Walker 20s, to George Ashton 20s, to Margaret Hyde 10s, to Sara Wilde 10s, and to the poor of Stopford and other neighbouring places. The residue of my estate . . . wholly to my wife.

52. She was the wife of Sir Richard Houghton, of Houghton Tower, Lanc.

and I nominate my wife to be mine executrix. And I do entreat Sir John Arderne, and Mr Robert Hyde of Denton to be my overseers of this my last will and testament, to assist my wife and to be helpfull to her. In witness whereof I put my hand and seale this twelfth day of December in ye year of the Lord 1684.

Sa. Eaton."

"In witness of Tho. Dickenson."

Nothing is known of Mrs Eaton beyond the mention of her in the above document, and that she survived

him for about 16 years. Her death is thus referred to in the Dukinfield Registers :—

"1681 March 30, Mrs Eaton, widow of Mr Samuel Eaton, dyed at Stepport, and was buried at Denton April ye 2nd."

He left no children, but, says Calamy, "he hath left a good name behind him among Persons of all Persuasions."

Woodley.

JAMES COCKS.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1886.

## Notes.

### WYTHENSHAW.

As supplementary to the contribution of Mr J. Holme Nicholson, (*ante* 199) the following particulars respecting Wythenshawe may be of interest :—

The oldest portion of the present Wythenshawe Hall, which is in the centre, dates from the days of Henry VIII., and is partly half-timbered and plastered. The usual great hall has a flat ornamental ceiling, with richly carved Elizabethan walls in oak panels. A withdrawing room over the great hall, as at Bramall Hall, seems to indicate the period when the habits of the gentry were tending towards refinement and luxury. Over this latter room is a dormitory having the original open timbered roof. It is said that there are evidences which suggest a Saxon homestead on the present site, but the earliest historic mention of Wythenshawe is in the time of Edward II., when "Thomas de Mascy, staying in Wythenschawe, which is in the vill of Northworthin, concedes and for ever confers to William, his son, one messuage and the whole of the land in Wythenschawe. Dated the Monday next before the feast of St. Margaret the Virgin, 1316." Since which date there has been an unbroken line of male heirs to the estate. The chief historical event in connection with Wythenshawe is its siege, at Christmas, 1643, by the Parliamentarians under "Colonel" Duckenfield. For full six weeks his environment by trained soldiers continued, and he Tatton of that day capitulated only on the arrival of two pieces of ordnance brought from Manchester, the heavy iron balls from which pierced the whole building from back to front. Two of these round missiles have been carefully preserved as relics. The house was at that time surrounded by a moat, now filled up, but traces of which have been several times

found during alterations in the grounds. Both besiegers and besieged seemed to have been uncommonly chary about killing anybody, but on a certain Sunday it is said that a Parliamentary soldier ventured somewhat nearer than was wont to the front of the house, and was observed by a maid servant, who begged the privilege of a trial shot with a musket, and actually shot the trooper dead. The church register at Stockport gives the name as that of Captain Adams. Amongst the goods mentioned in the inventory prepared for the capitulation is a "Bible and a little Psalm Book embroidered with 'Carnacovi Satan.'" There is shown also a very curious large map of the Wythenshawe estate in the year 1640, drawn by one Robert Martinscroft, a competent mathematician, and who is said to have greatly helped Humphrey Chetham in the foundation of the Chetham College Library in Manchester. It was endorsed as follows :—

A true Map or Topographical Description of the Lordshippe of Northerden, lying along & within the County Palatine of Chester, shewing how the inclosed lands and wast ground and every particular lyeth within the boundary thereof. Taken and described in Aprill 1641, by Richard Martinscrofte.

Below is another endorsement stating it to have been approved of by James Whitelegge and another. This map added something of importance to what was already known of him. Martinscrofte was a Manchester man of considerable literary attainments, and was of service to the feoffees of the Chetham Hospital and Library in arranging the books which they were purchasing for the great library. He was born in Scotland, being the son of Richard Martinscrofte; and he was baptised at the Collegiate Church, Manchester, in 1608. The father in 1607 was one of the appraisers of the effects in the house of Thomas Cogan, in the Milngate, who deceased that year, and who had been master of the Grammar School and a physician of re-

pute. The family of Martinscrofte were living in the Market-stid-lane in the year 1631. The younger Richard surveyed the Wythenshawe property for Mr Robert Tatton in April 1641, when this map of "the whole lordship of Northen" was "taken and described." The Martinscroftes were of the Roman Catholic faith; and when the inhabitants of Manchester were called upon to swear to the Protestation, on the 28th February, 1642, to maintain the religion established against Romish innovations, Richard Martinscrofte and his wife Elizabeth, along with George Martinscrofte and Raphe Jenson, were returned as "recusants," being the only four Roman Catholics in their division of the town, which contained other grown-up inhabitants (Protestants) to the number of 164. It was towards the end of the year 1661 that Martinscrofte was busy arranging the books at the Chetham Library; and about five years afterwards he was one of several "professors" in Manchester engaged in the teaching of mathematics, being an accomplished instructor in that science. This fact was presented to notice in an interesting way. When the Act of Parliament coming into force 24th March, 1665-6; restrained Nonconformist ministers from living within five miles of the places where they had formerly preached, the Rev. Adam Martindale, of Roostherne, removed from that place to Manchester to look out for employment "both mathematicall and ministeriall." In that town he became the instructor of many ingenious boys, including some from the Grammar School. The established teachers of mathematics there, envying Martindale's success, accordingly regarded him with jealousy; and the latter stigmatised the former as antiquated pedagogues steeped in the formularies of the old-fashioned horn-books—"old soakers with their Records' Arithmetics." But the shrewd Martindale excepted Martinscrofte from his censure, who was still living in the town. "As for old Richard Martinscrofte, who had more true skill in him than they all, though he was a Papist, he never opposed nor contemned me, but was always civil to me and communicative." Martindale himself was, like Martinscrofte, an experienced land surveyor; and some of his scholars at Warrington once measured a piece of heath there "as if they had been old land-meeters." He was the author of "The Country Survey Book, or Land Meter's Vademecum," which first appeared in 1682, and which arrived at an eighth edition in 1711. In the preface he states that "mathematical schools are very rare; and an able artist to instruct one in private is hard and chargeable to be procur'd." Martinscrofte was buried at Eccles early in the year 1667, under a stone bearing a coat of arms and a long Latin inscription.

Stretford.

J. E. BAILEY.

#### AN OLD WELSH CHURCH.

A movement is on foot for the restoration of one of

the oldest and most interesting churches in the Principality, viz, that of Llantwit Major, near Cowbridge, in Glamorganshire, a village which is almost unique for its ancient associations and existing remains. Llantwit was not only a monastery but a very famous university or school of divinity, founded by St. Illtud in the fifth century, and said to have included among its alumni Gildas, the historian, St. David, and even Taliesin, the oldest of the Welsh bards; while the number of the less eminent students was so great as to have necessitated 400 houses and seven lecture-halls. The church is of different dates; what is called the new church, which is of the thirteenth century, being, curiously enough, older than the other part, which is a couple of hundred years later. At the west end of the latter are the ruins of a lady chapel, 40 feet in length; but the chief interest lies in its tombs, one of which has a row of lozenge-shaped compartments, with an arabesque ornament on one side, and a series of interlaced rings on the other. In the churchyard is an upright stone, believed to be Runic, and the shaft of a cross to the memory of St. Illutus, or Illtud. The antiquities of this quaint village are not confined to the church, for close by is a very singular little town hall of Norman date, with a flight of steps by the side, and an inscribed bell in the gable, while for some distance around there are traces of ruined buildings, probably those of the universities.

MANTON.

#### THE BULKELEYS AND BRASSEYS OF CHESHIRE

Mr Henry Labouchere has poked fun at the De Brescie controversy in the House of Commons, and Mr Sala has giped at the "gentle blood" of the Normans in his usual amusing way. But neither in fun nor in earnest has anyone presumed to call in question the fact that we have had De Brescies, Bulkeleys, and Brasseys in Cheshire, who in their respective ways have left behind them historic marks of some value.

We have a place called Bulkeley in the county, and another place known as Brassey Green, but it remains to be shown whether they were so called after the persons who had occupied them, or if the occupiers had taken their surnames from these places. The heralds can deal effectively with family descents, the topographer with the place names, but the antiquary finds food for reflection in both, and is entitled to appropriate to his own use all the herald and topographer can tell him:

The late Mr Thomas Brassey was wise enough to remain content with his own claim to distinction, without presuming to claim a descent from Bulkeleys or De Brescies, and, to do Lord Brassey justice, he has expressed his desire to be known only as the son of his father. Mr Owen Bulkeley, on the other hand, was entitled to say all he did about the other family, for he claimed to represent in his own person a title to a dormant barony connected with his house. H.

far Mr Tucker has thrown any real light upon the questions at issue is not for me to say, but most of your antiquarian readers will admit that we have not gained much useful knowledge out of the hot controversy on the Brassey right to claim kindred with Bulkeleys or De Brescies, and that upon the whole the storm has ended in a very settled calm.

And yet, the questions of how the De Brescies came to Cheshire, what lands they possessed there, how these lands passed to the Bulkeleys, when and why the barony alluded to became dormant, possess a local interest to us which leads us on to an examination of the facts. It is hardly worth inquiring how far the modern Brasseys are interested in this matter, for not even the Somerset Herald has set up a plea on their behalf to any share in the honours of the old houses I have been dwelling upon; but for local purposes there does remain a vast field for inquiry, and I am rather surprised that no capable person has taken the subject in hand.

I see that one writer has suggested, on the authority of Dr Smiles, that the Brasseys of Malpas descended from a Huguenot who fled to England for safety, but Dr Smiles simply suggested the thought, and upon inquiry I find there is no warrant for the deduction drawn from the hint. We have to look elsewhere for the shreds and patches which so often help us to solve historic doubts, and I am myself persuaded that there are many scraps bearing upon the families mentioned at the head of this note which could be studied with advantage, and then be applied to perfect a very interesting chapter in Cheshire history.

#### A CHESHIRE ANTIQUARY.

#### POWNALL FEE, WILMSLOW PARISH: THE TOWNSHIP RECORDS.

The following is a continuation of the records relating to Pownall Fee township, as found in the old parish chest at Wilmslow:—

May ye 21, 1735.

Then Thomas Ashton and Ralph Partington, being constables, made their accounts, and there appeared to be nothing in their hand with the receipt of fifteen shillings of their old constables. 0 15 0 0

JOHN WORRALL,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
WM. ALCOCK.

May ye 21, 1735.

Then Thomas Ashton and Ralph Partington, being collectors of the Land Tax, made their accounts, and

there appears to be in their hands the sum of one pound ten shillings and sixpence, which said sum they have paid into the hands of the overseers of the poor. 1 10 6 0

JOHN WORRALL,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
JOSEPH WALKER,  
JOHN TAYLOR.

May ye 21, 1735.

Then John Taylor and Wm Allcock, being overseers of the poor, made their accounts, and with £5 17s 0d recd. of the old overseers, and there appears to be in their hands the sum of £2 5s 0d, which said sum is paid to their succeeding officers. 2 5 0 0

And likewise thirteen shillings from Joseph Walker, paid the same time, from William Linney's note, be in all £4 1s 2d ..... 4 1 2 0

JOHN WORRALL,  
JAMES KELSALL,  
JOSEPH WALKER.

26 May, 1736.

Then Roger Bradbury, overseer of ye highways for Margaret Roylance in Morley, made his accounts for ye year 1734, and there appears in his hands nothing. 0 0 0 0

Examined by us,  
THOMAS COOK,  
PETER WARBURTON,  
WILLIAM WILLSON,  
JOHN TAYLOR, } Inhabitants.

Then John Taylor, overseer of the highways of Morley, made up his account for ye year 1735, and there appears in his hands nothing ..... 0 0 0 0

Examined by us,  
THOMAS CASH,  
PETER WARBURTON,  
WILLIAM WILLSON, } Inhabitants.

An Indenture of Apprenticeship, made 8 June, 1736, whereby Thomas Foster and Thomas Golborne, overseers of Pownall Fee, do bind Henry Chapman, son of Henry Chapman the younger, a poor person of the township of Pownall Fee, to Daniel Burton, of Didsbury, weaver, for seven years—premium four pounds—the lad to have as usual neat and suitable clothes, and a shilling in money every Christmas day. Signed and sealed by the contracting parties in the presence of

JAMES KELSALL,  
TIM. LOWTEN.

Seen and allowed by us, two of his Majesty's

Justices of the peace and quorum in and for the said county.

18th Aug. 1736.

JOHN PICKERING,  
W. BLACKBURNE.

May the 18th, 1737.

Then John Pierson and Peter Hewitt, being constables for 1735, made their accounts, and appeared in their hand the sum of 0 15 9, which is paid into the hands of John Bray and Tho. Gouldburn, present constables.

0 15 9 0

Examined by us,  
JOHN WORRALL,  
JAMES KELSALL, } Inhabitants.  
JNO. POTTS,  
JOHN TAYLOR, }

May the 18th, 1737.

Then Aron Coppock and William Willson, being constables for the year 1736, made their accounts, and there appeared in their hands nothing.

0 0 0 0

Examined by us,  
JOHN WORRALL,  
JAMES KELSALL, } Inhabitants.  
JNO. POTTS,  
JOHN TAYLOR, }

May ye 18th, 1737.

Then John Pierson and Peter Hewitt, being collectors of the Land tax for 1735, made their accounts, and there appeared in their hands £1 7s 7d, which said sum the have paid into the hands of John Bray and Thomas Goulburn, present constables.

1 7 7 0

Examined by us,  
JOHN WORRALL,  
JAMES KELSALL, } Inhabitants.  
JNO. POTTS,  
JOHN TAYLOR, }

May ye 18th, 1737.

Then Aron Coppock and William Willson, being collectors of the Land tax for the year 1736, made their accounts, and there appeared in their hands £1 3s 0d, which said sum is paid into the hands of John Bray and Thomas Goulburn, present constables.

1 3 0 0

Examined by us,  
JOHN WORRALL,  
JAMES KELSALL, } Inhabitants.  
JNO. POTTS,  
JOHN TAYLOR, }

May ye 18th, 1737.

Then John Bray and Thomas Goul-

burn, being constables for Pownall Fee, recd. the aforesd sum, being

£1 12s 8d ..... 1 12 8

appeared in all ..... 3 5 4  
Recd. the — of the above-mentioned sum by us, being constables.  
As witness our hand,

THO. GOLBURN.

April the 10th, 1738.

Then John Bray and Thomas Golburn, being constables for the year 1737, made their accounts, and appear'd in their hand £7 3s 5d, which said sum is pd. into the hands of there succeder.

7 3 5

JAMES KELSALL,  
JOHN TAYLOR,  
JNO. POTTS,  
WM. ALCOCK.

May the 2, 1738.

Then recd. from the Overseers of Pownall Fee the sum of one pound fifteen shillings in full for the consideration money that for John Jonshson (?) being an apprentice to Petter Blease in Rosthorne. I say recd. by me, PETER BLEASE.

WILLIAM DANIEL,

THOMAS ARMITT.

An order made on the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Morley 15th Nov., 1738, to remove Walton Green from Pownall Fee to the Township Hale.

Order made by Justices,

CHA. DUKINFIELD,  
H. WRIGHT.

April ye 23, 1739.

Then John Bray, being constable for Mrs Shaw, and John Goodyear for Thomas Copper, made their accounts, and there appeared in their hands one pound two shill., which the have paid into the hands of there succeders. The above sd sum the — being answered for unto us whose names are here und. written:—

1 2 0

JAMES KELSALL,  
WM. ALCOCK,  
AARON COPPOCK,  
PETER WARBURTON,  
JOHN PRESTON.

At General Quarter Sessions held at Chester Castle, on the 1st day of May in the twelfth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second before James Mainwaring, Robert Lowe, Esqrs.

other Justices, an order bearing date the ninth day of March last past under the hands and seals of Charles Leigh and Peter Davenport—Thomas Chapman, Catherine his wife, Anne, Martha, Alice, Thomas, and Josiah, their children, were, upon the complaint of the overseers of the poor of the township of Pownall Fee, conveyed to the township of fieldsworth, otherwise fieldsworth [Fallsworth], in the parish of Manchester, the overseers of which Township appealed against the order—"Now upon hearing the said appeal and full debate, and consideration had in these premises, it is hereby ordered by this Court that the said recited order shall be and hereby is confirmed and made absolute.

"By the Court, Geo. Lowe, Deputy

"Clerk of the Peace, pr."

An Indenture of Apprenticeship, made 10 October, 1739, whereby John Hankinson and Peter Warburton, overseers of the poor of Pownall Fee, bind as an apprentice Margaret Hulme, otherwise Simpson, a pauper of Pownall Fee, to Martha Knows, of Cheadle Buckley, to be taught with due and moderate chastisement the business of a weaver. The child was bound to obey her mistress, and also any member of her family. The premium was thirty shillings. The document is signed by the contracting parties, and witnessed by John Worthington and Wm. Worthington. I do not see the Justices' consent to this instrument.

May ye 21st, 1740.

Then Nathan Pearson and Jon. Goodyer, constables, made up their acc'ts, and their appeirs in their hands one pd. eighteen shill. tenpence, 1 18 10 0 which the have pd. into the Hands of their successors the above.

Examined by us,

JON. TAYLOR,	}	Inhabitants.
WM. ALCOCK,		
THO. POTTS,		
JOHN WORTHINGTON,		
JON. HULME,		
HUGH POWNALL.		

I think this John Goodyer, now written Goodier, would be grandfather to the late John Goodier, of Fulshaw Bank. He lived at what is now called South Side, near the old tollbar. Mrs Hayes, who lived here when I was a lad, was his daughter.

A bond, dated 8 February, 1740, given to overseers of Pownall Fee, Hugh Pownall and Daniel Burges, for £40 in respect of the maintenance, &c., of a bastard male child, born on the body of Phoebe Birchenough, of Pownall Fee, by James Hardy, of Didsbury, a husbandman.

The also examination of Phoebe Birchenough, of Styall, before Henry Wright and Thomas Legh, 14

March, 1740, who swears that James Hardy was the father of her child. It would appear that one or both of the parties lived with Henry Massey, of Heaton Norris. Mary Chandler, of Etchells, also gives evidence in support of Phoebe Birchenough.

An order to overseers of Pownall Fee of H. Wright and Thomas Leigh, two justices, to remove Anne Longton, widow, and Mary and Martha, her children, from Pownall Fee to Chapel-en-le-Frith, dated 25 October, 1740.

The underwritten seems to be a bill of sale of household furniture, &c.:

Know all men by these presents, that George Piggot, of the parish of Wilmslow and county of Chester, Husbandman, for and in consideration of the sum of five pounds to me in hand paid by Hugh Pownall and Daniel Burgess, overseers of the poor of the said fee for the time being, the receipt whereof I, the said George Piggot, do hereby acknowledge, HAVE granted, bargained, and sold, and by these presents do grant, bargain, and sell unto the said Hugh Pownall and Daniel Burgess and their successors, Overseers of the Poor of the said fee for the time being, all the goods, household stuff, implements of husbandry, and other furniture, particularly mentioned and contained herein, that is to say—In the houseplace of me the said George Piggot: One iron grate and tongs, eight chairs, one chura, two tables, three pewter dishes, six trenchers, six earthenware plates, one dish, one shelf, two pails, one bowl, two dishes, two noggins, three cups, one iron pot, two steans, two stools, one iron toaster, one pair of iron goblets and a spit, four earthenware dishes. In the parlour: Two coffers, one box, one kneading-trough, one form, two beds, with all the furniture and clothes thereto belonging, one chair, one stool, and one candlestick, and sundry other small household goods. In the barn: All the hay, one wheelbarrow. Upon the common of Lindow, one cow. [But this latter clause about the cow has had a pen drawn through it.] To have and to hold all and singular the said goods and other the premises above bargained and sold, or mentioned, or intended so to be, to the said Hugh Pownall and Daniel Burgess and their successors, overseers of the poor of Pownall Fee, for the time being for ever, and I, the said George Piggot, for myself and my heirs, executors, administrators, all and singular the said goods and other the premises unto the said Hugh Pownall and Daniel Burgess in full possession by delivering unto them sixpence in money. As witness my hand this third day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty.

GEORGE PIGGOT.

Signed in presence of  
ELLAS X PIGGOT,  
GEORGE WHITTAKER.

[George Piggot grazed a cow on Lindow Common. What has become of these old grazing rights of the commoners?]

June ye 2nd, 1741.

Jon. Hulme and Jon. Bray, being constables for ye last year, made up theire accits for ye same, and ye being collectors of ye Land Tax made up theire accits for the same, and they have answered the above some, and there appears in theire hands £0 15s 6d, which ye have pd. into ye hands of Aaron (?) — and Jon. Bray, present overseers of the poor.

0 15 6 0

In the presence of us inhabitants,

JON. TAYLOR,  
THO. POTTS,  
PETER WARBURTON,  
PETER TAYLOR,  
HUGH POWNALL.

A bond given 25 March, 1741, by Thomas Dale, of Baguley, husbandman, to Hugh Pownall and Daniel Burgess, overseers of Pownall Fee, for thirty pounds. The condition of the bond was that the said Thomas Dale was at all times hereafter to well and truly save, defend, and keep harmlesse and indemnify not only the said overseers, but also all the inhabitants and landholders of and within Pownall Fee from all cost, charge, damage, and expenses that may happen to any of them by reason of a male bastard child, already born in Pownall Fee aforesaid, on the body of one Anne Beck, a single woman, whereof the said Thomas Dale is the putative father.

his

(Signed) THOMAS M DALE ○  
mark

In the presence of

MARY POTTS,

his

WILLIAM M MILLAR.

mark

A certificate dated 29 April, 1741, by overseers of Bollin Fee, acknowledging the settlement of Peter Sumner, Anne his wife, and John their son.

Signed by the overseers, THOMAS PADMORE,  
THOMAS ALLOOCK.

In the presence of

JONATHAN KITCHEN,

JAMES TANKARD.

Countersigned by justices, C. LEGH,  
PETER DAVENPORT.

An Indenture of Apprenticeship, made the 4 June, 1741, whereby Sarah Harrison, a poor girl, of Pownall Fee, about the age of 17 years, was bound by her own act alone, unto James Birch, of Burnage, web-

ster, as a covenanted, contracted, and retained servant and apprentice, for four years, the premium to be 20s.

Birch signed the indenture, but the girl's signature does not appear.

It is witnessed by

THOS. POTTS,

— WHEAT,

and is countersigned by two justices,

C. LEGH,

PETER DAVENPORT.

An Indenture, made the 11 June, 1741, whereby John Bray and Aaron Dooley, overseers of Pownall Fee, bind apprentice Ann Jenkinson, a poor girl of Pownall Fee, with Samuel Blackshaw, of Etchells, in the parish of Stockport, a husbandman—premium £3 8s. The said Samuel Blackshaw covenanted to well and truly instruct, &c., the said Ann Jenkinson in the art of spinning of jersey and cotton.

Samuel Blackshaw executes the deed, but we do not find the signatures of the other contracting parties. Nevertheless, it is countersigned by two justices,

C. LEGH and

PETER DAVENPORT.

[Woolspinning, hosiery, and jersey spinning have been mentioned incidentally as we have come along in these old papers, but this is the first time we come upon cotton. The girl was to be instructed in the spinning of *jersey*, the old industry, and also in *cotton*, the new material then coming into use, and cotton was at this time spun by hand in private houses. This was thirty years before Greg's mill, Disley Kirk, was built.]

An Indenture dated 10 June, 1741, whereby John Bray and Aaron Dooley apprenticed Ann Harrison, a poor girl of Pownall Fee, to James Birch, of Burnage, webster (weaver), premier £3. Birch covenants to teach her the art and business of a webster, and to pay her yearly the sum of sixpence "for and as Hire on wages." This document is executed by Birch, but not by the contracting parties. Birch's signature is witnessed by Thomas Potts and Aaron Coppock, and as usual the document is countersigned by two justices.

C. LEGH,

PETER DAVENPORT.

Indenture made 20 November, 1741, whereby John Peierson, churchwarden of Pownall Fee, John Bray and Aaron Dooley, overseers of the poor of Pownall Fee, bind John Jenkinson, a poor lad, to Isaac Worthington, of Manchester, Dutch Loom Weaver. He was bound at 7 years of age, and was to remain bound until 21 years of age. The premium was £5. Worthington was to provide for the boy, giving him sixpence in money each Christmas

and to teach him "The art, trade, or occupation of a Dutch Loom Weaver."

The document was signed and sealed.

JOHN BRAY ○  
his

AARON X DOOLEY ○  
mark and seal

JOHN JENKINSON ○  
X his mark and seal

In the presence of ISAAC WORTHINGTON ○

ROBT. TATTON,  
ROBT. NEWTON, and countersigned as usual  
by two justices, C. LAMM,

PETER DAVENPORT.

[We feel curious to know what a Dutch-loom Weaver was. I write now, and have while I am writing, the whir from about 800 power Looms, weaving fancy-patterned muslins by Jacquard's machine, all in one shed—a shed as large as a fair-sized field. There has been great development in the trade of a weaver or webster since Isaac Worthington, in 1741, covenanted to teach poor John Jenkinson to be a Dutch Loom Weaver, whatever that may have been. Further on it is written "Dutch-loom or garter weaver."]

"Oct. ye 26th, 1741.

"Henry Chapman went to his son Robert Chapman, and is to stay with him att 9s 6d per month, until the money Robert was in debt to the town was run up, which was about Three Pounds."

May ye 25th, 1742.

Jon. Hulme and Hugh Pownall being constables for the last year made up there accounts for ye constable and ye land tax, and there appears in hands four shillings, which is pd into Jon Taylor and Nathan Peers' hands, being overseers of the poor, as witness our hands,

THEO. POTTS,  
AARON COPPOCK,  
THOMAS CASE,  
JOHN WORTHINGTON,  
PETER WARBURTON,  
JON. TAYLOR.

James Heald and Thos. Faughnor (?) not entered for 1748.

Leigh.

WILLIAM NORBURY.

~~~~~  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1886.

## Notes.

### CHORLEY HALL.

Such thing as I can  
With hearty will, for I will not rebel  
Against your lust, a tale will I tell.  
Have me excused if I should speak amiss,  
My will is good; and lo, my tale is this.

—*Canterbury Tales.*

Chorley, or *Chorlegh*, is one of the six hamlets or townships comprising Wilmslow Parish — Styall, Morley, Fulshaw, Chorley, Hough, and Deanrow; or, to take the more recent divisions in four townships, to it is one of the four of Bollin Fee, Pownall Fee, Fulshaw, and Chorley. What is now erroneously called Alderley and Alderley Edge is almost all of it in Chorley, and in the Hough, which latter place is the southern part of Bollin Fee. St. Philip's, Chorley, is the designation of the church, and what is now called Alderley village—the road between the railway station and the Trafford Arms—was, fifty years back and later, known as Street-lane-ends, Chorley. For the ancient history of Chorley, and especially of Chorley Hall, I must refer you to those books which are

authorities, as Ormerod's *Cheshire* and Earwaker's *East Cheshire*. For the purposes of this paper I shall refer to the latter.

But I must here put in a caution, and premise that the chapter *delet*, headed Chorley Township gives us the history of Chorley Hall estate, rather than the history of Chorley township. Chorley Hall estate and Chorley township are two very different things; for while Chorley Hall estate has suffered the mutations given in the chapter referred to, Chorley township—Chorley, as a part of the manor of Bolyn—has had none of the vicissitudes of the former place, but is, to-day, what it was 600 years back, and what it has been all along, the property of the Lord of Bolyn, and a part of his manor. The arms of the present Lord of Bolyn, Sir Humphrey de Trafford, swing in the hostelry, in the centre of the place, as they have done for hundreds of years, indeed since the de Traffords became Lords of Bolyn, or since there was an inn there. Now all this is quite consistent with the facts, properly arranged, given in Mr Earwaker's history. I state this at the onset because it is so very natural to mistake Chorley Hall for the manorial hall of the township—an error into which nearly all per-



sons fall when first approaching the study of the history of Chorley.

I want now, in the first place, to notice a few points about Chorley Hall estate. I shall not begin with Adam; but if I had a genealogical question in hand I should feel bound to do so, for I like thoroughness in everything; but I shall start at the time this estate was marked off as a distinct and separate part of the township of Chorley, or of the manor of Bolyn. Mr Earwaker, fortunately, with his usual munificence, gives us a copy of the ancient document by which this was done. Edmund Fitton (or Fitton), Lord of Bolyn, in the year 1280 granted *all the land, with its appurtenances which John de Davenport held of him in the vill of Chorley to Robert de Downes, who had married Margaret Fitton, his sister.* This old Fitton, Lord of Bollin, most likely resided at Bollin Hall, Wilmslow, an old manorial hall, which stood just at the southern end of the Wilmslow viaduct, and which the railway demolished. I remember the old place. It was something like Chorley Hall, an old framed building. The old lord seems to have been a kindly man, for when his sister married Robert of Downes, who, like enough, had no estate, the Lord of Bollin generously provided the newly-wedded pair with a moderate maintenance, giving his sister a slice of his manor lying in Chorley—not the whole of Chorley, or the manorial rights of Chorley, but a suitable slice, what was a decent provision for making the family pot to boil. Good old soul! Like myself, he was a Wilmslow man, and I am proud of him.

Now, at this time the manor of Bolyn—Wilmslow parish—was all one undivided manor (excepting, perhaps, Fulshaw, with which we are not now concerned), and it was so up to 1421, when the male line of the Lords of Bolyn failed, and the manor was divided between two sisters of the late lord, one of whom he married Edmund de Trafford, and the other Robert del Booth. The latter (Booth) was the ancestor of the present Earl of Stamford, and he took the northern and eastern side of the manor, while Trafford had the southern and western portion, Chorley being within, and a part of this latter moiety—"now, thus" is Sir Humphrey de Trafford, to-day, the Lord of Bolyn, and of Chorley as a part of that lordship. As a matter of fact, the greater part by far of it now belongs to him, and as to manorial rights, the court-leet of Bolyn has always from the first exercised jurisdiction over Chorley, and by far the lion's share of the waste lands on the common of Great Lindow, abutting on Chorley, is in the hands of the present Lord of Bolyn, de Trafford. He is the *landlord* of most of it; his arms grace the village inn; to his court suit and service are rendered; he nominates its churchwardens; he is its lord! "*Gripe Griffin; hold fast.*" So that, although in Chorley Hall we have a grand

specimen of ancient English domestic architecture, and a respectable estate with a peer of the realm for its present owner, we have not a manorial hall; not a lordship; not a township estate.

In Mr Earwaker's book, under the heading *William Davenport*, is given in a parenthesis, a quotation from a Cheshire MS. pedigree as follows:—"He sold the manor of Chorley, and hath now seated himself at Hawne (Hollon)." He never had the manor of Chorley to sell. He sold some of his estates in Chorley, his Chorley Hall estate, and this misled the old genealogist as it has done other since his time.

In the above-mentioned deed given in Mr Earwaker's book, these words are used in describing what was granted:—"All the land and appurtenances which John de Davenport held of me in the vill of Chorley." These words I want you to bear in mind while I refer to another fact.

Mr Earwaker says when dealing with the age of Chorley Hall:—"These features would point to the early part of the 15th century, temp. Henrys V. and VI. as the probable date of the erection of this—the oldest portion of this building."

If he be correct in this surmise, and I do not question his judgment, at the time of this grant by the Lord of Bolyn to his sister there was not, at any rate, the present Chorley Hall upon the estate; most probably there was no house at all. These lands and the appurtenances, thereto had, hitherto, been held under the Lord of Bolyn, as we are told, by *John de Davenport*. Who was he? Whence came he? Where is this *Davenport* from, from whence came he?

Later down the ages, in 1486, the owner of Chorley Hall, as we further learn, from Mr Earwaker's book, Robert Hondforth, junior, had an only daughter and heiress named Ann, who immediately before 1495 was married to John Stanley, Esquire. This he shews by a charter given; and, by the way, this is the first time the Stanleys get Chorley Hall Estate. It soon, however, passed from them; for we find that this John Stanley died without issue, and that his widow married (re-married says the history) a Thomas Davenport, son of Ralph Davenport, of *Davenport*, for a second husband. Now we have seen that in 1280 there was a John of *Davenport* who held the land which was afterwards the Chorley Hall estate, under the Lord of Bolyn; and that, again, about the year 1495 there was a son of Ralph of Davenport. Now the place *Davenport*, the most ancient seat of the Davenport family, is in the parish of Astbury, about 12 miles distant and *prime facie*, this is the Davenport meant; but there is also a Davenport Hall in Chorley, the lands of which adjoin the Chorley Hall lands, near Orrell's Well. May not a branch of the ancient Davenport family have settled here in very early times, and may this not be a reason

in 1250—saw them from the Lord of Boin because they adjoined his estate in Chorley?

This Davenport Hall in Chorley is at this time a large, well-built, substantial brick building, of say about two hundred years old, or perhaps a little more. I take it that this substantial and comparatively ancient house has replaced a still more ancient mansion. When I first knew it, fifty years ago, its general appearance was much as it is now, but there were evident marks that it had in the past been a place of distinction, from some very old and very fine trees about it, ornamental and otherwise. I have not yet had an opportunity to examine this place for the evidences of a former house, but I mean to do this the first opportunity. This old Davenport Hall stands near the Row of Trees, and almost adjoining Smallwood House, which has found a place in Mr Earwaker's history, while Davenport Hall had not.

Before leaving this part of my paper, I may say that near Davenport Hall is Davenport Green, some of which is in Fulshaw and some in Morley. And here I want to guard some who may read histories of this locality, and who may not have been born and bred on the common of Lindow as I was not to be misled when they find common-rights described in general terms, as to quantity and locality; as for instance, as being a thousand acres of this and a thousand acres of that, and of the other; and as being in Fulshaw, Chorley, and Warford, &c. Such general terms only mean that these rights were undefined as to quantity, and that they existed in the common moor of Great Lindow, which abutted the several townships mentioned, the dividing boundaries not being then in existence any more than lines on the sea. It was only in much later times that the township boundaries were fixed. We find from the Finney MS. that the Fulshaw boundaries were not fixed until the workhouse estate was enclosed about a hundred years back. It is likely the boundaries of Mobberley and Warford were fixed about the same time or even a little later, while the boundary between Chorley and Morley, both being within the manor of Bolyn, has been uncertain until recent times. The tax-gatherer as he comes along (and he comes more certainly than death) is generally the man to settle these points, so that it is not strange to find a Davenport-green in Fulshaw and Morley. Besides it is likely that another branch of these Davenports were settled in Fulshaw, near Davenport-green, at a very old house only lately demolished, and some years back belonging to John Burgess, who sold it. Mr Earwaker thinks these Davenports of the last century, of Chorley and Fulshaw, were of totally different family from those of Chorley Hall. I strongly incline to the opinion that they were sub-branches of the same

some of them being tradesmen. Younger sons of landed proprietors must do something. Primogeniture only keeps up the main branches; the others gravitate to the common walks of life.

This Davenport Hall and several farms belonging thereto in the township of Chorley belongs to the Leycesters of Toft, who seem to have become possessed of it by inter-marriage with the Davenports; but if these Davenports were not of the old stock, how did this come about? A Ralph Davenport, of Chorley, was buried at Wilmslow April 1st, 1732, doubtless from this Davenport Hall. If this family was an altogether different family from the former Davenports of Chorley Hall it is a very strange coincidence.

I may say that I know of none left of this family of Davenport in this neighbourhood. Mrs Catherine Hall, of Wilmslow, is said to have been the last of the stock, and she died in 1818, leaving, I believe, no issue. She certainly was not, could not by any natural possibility have been the mother of Thomas Hall, the benefactor to the poor of Bollin Fee, a somewhat natural and easy error into which our historian has fallen.

Davenport Hall in Chorley is a fact of to-day to be accounted for either (1) by allowing that it belonged to the old times before Chorley Hall was built, and that a branch of the old family of Davenports in Astbury lived at it all along; or (2) by supposing that some of the old stock, when the leading man went to Hollon, in Salop, settled here and built the place for a home for a declining family, or (3) by supposing, as Mr Earwaker seems to have done, that it is altogether a modern place of no account belonging to a mere mushroom family who happened by a strange coincidence to bear the Davenport name.

Another place of importance to the antiquary in this locality, and one unfortunately overlooked in our history, is the old Baptist chapel in Warford, about a mile and a half distant from Chorley Hall, and in its history remotely connected therewith. It is one of the oldest Nonconformist places of worship in England. From a document which I have in my possession, written by a late minister of this old place of worship, compiled from the old church books there, we learn that this congregation originated with a portion of the Parliamentary Army, under Sir George Booth, for the time at least, of Chorley Hall. The officers preached, and gathered a small church, which remained after the army had left, and even until now. After the Restoration and for some years subsequent they had no building in which to worship, these luxuries not being allowed by the law, nor had they even liberty to worship in the open air. Their practice was to meet near the junction of four townships, and when the constables of one township came upon them they

hopped into another, so that, unless the four sets of beads came upon them all at once, they were tolerably safe. The first place in which they established regular worship was at Norbury Houses, in Warford, and here they buried their dead in the orchard. This old grave yard still remains. It has been supposed to have belonged to the Quakers, but this is a manifest error, as that people had all along a sufficient graveyard in Mobberley, the adjoining township. These old Baptists had also a burial-ground at Mottram-St.-Andrew, and this also remains to our time.

This old Warford Chapel was at first a timbered structure; the back wall is yet a framed wall; but in the other parts it has been underwalled at various times, so that it presents a somewhat modern appearance. One end of it has been converted into a cottage, and is sometimes occupied by the minister. It is now, as a place of worship, very small, but the interior is very quaint and interesting. Near to it, and indeed belonging to it, there stood a few years ago a gem of an old maple cottage; but this has, unfortunately, been improved off the face of the earth. I may say that I think it probable that this old building is of an earlier date than the Baptist Church of Warford; if so it was a previous building converted by the Baptists into a meeting house.

Th' Ryleys, or Ryley, as it is more commonly called, an estate adjoining Chorley Hall, is the ancient home of a family of Ryley, of whom we know little. This place claims a passing notice chiefly for the purpose of introducing the name of an important person connected therewith, which has hitherto escaped recognition. I refer to the builder of the present mansion house in the early part of this century, Mr Peter Taylor.

Peter Taylor was one of our early Manchester cotton merchants. He was of an old family of freeholders, or yeomen, in Morley, who owned an estate there. He was bred to agricultural pursuits, but these he left in early life for the Manchester trade, in which he amassed a fortune, and bought Th' Ryleys, and built the present mansion, long before Alderley Edge and Chorley was a place of suburban residences to Manchester. Alfred Lowe, the late owner of Ryleys (who has found a place in our history), was son of a sister of Peter Taylor, and he was brought up with his uncle, and was eventually his successor at Ryleys. Peter Taylor had many relations, one of whom, a nephew, bore his name, and who, I believe, was his heir-at-law; but these only came in for a moderate share of his large fortune, the bulk of his fortune going to Mr Alfred Lowe, before-mentioned, whom he made his heir, and successor in business and at the Ryleys. I believe the estate was bought from the Walkdens, a family incidentally mentioned at Flixton. The Walkdens, of Ryleys, of Heyhead, and of Flixton, are all of one stock.

Those who know the road from Wilmslow to Alderley may have noticed on the west side, near White Hall, two old hedges near together, with the intervening space covered with brambles and brushwood. This is a part of the old highway which most likely passed near Chorley Hall, and proceeded southward by what is now called Blackshaw's farm, or near Blackshaw's 17th Fields. I may say here that the turnpike road through Alderley and Chorley—the Wilmslow and Lawton turnpike road—was cut a little over hundred years back by the notable blind road-contractor, John Metcalf, of Knarborough, and this new road disestablished the old one. Blackshaw's 17th Fields, adjoins Chorley Hall estate, but it belongs, most of Chorley does, to the present Lord of Belys, & Humphrey de Trafford. This place is the nidus of the Bower family of Wilmslow. The Bowers of Mottram and Fulehaw are another branch of the same stock. A Ralph Bower, originally pronounced Bo-er, that is, maker of bows, as Fletcher is a maker of arrows, in the last century lived here, and had a family of many sons and daughters. He was a yeoman, or farmer; he cultivated his own land, which was held on a lease for life under the Lord of Belys & Humphrey de Trafford.

In addition to his agricultural pursuits, and possibly to employ his large family, and being of a progressive turn of mind he introduced at the old place the spinning of cotton, which was then as a new industry superseding jersey-spinning. At this time both these industries, the old and the new, were carried on at the homes of the people. Soon after this, improved machinery and power was introduced into this work by the inventions of Arkwright and others, and in the days when Arkwright and his were laying the foundation of their colossal fortunes this Ralph Bower, catching the spirit of the time, migrated from this old farm behind Chorley Hall to Wilmslow, where there was a river for water power (steam power was not used as yet), and here he erected what was then called the New Building, a little water power cotton mill, at the foot of Hawthorn Carr. This place is now known as the Silk Mill. This mill was for many years worked as a silk mill by the late Mr Charles Barber. It has been stated that he built it. This is an error. It was built before Mr Barber was born by Mr Bower. Other mills followed, and eventually introduced steam into a mill which stood almost in the street, near Wilmslow town pump. As many sons grew up, and each in his turn became a spinner or manufacturer, and soon Wilmslow became noted for its cotton shops. Some of these firms even issued money and notes. Indeed, Wilmslow at the time was far in advance of many places that are now important towns, so far as the cotton trade was concerned. For some reason in after years this trade declined in Wilmslow, and eventually left it.

Ralph Bower, of Chorley and Wilmslow, seems to have done well, for about the beginning of this century he bought the Hawthorn estate, an historic place near Wilmslow. It was then very much larger in extent than now. It included a large slice of what is now Pownall, and extended to the Bollin in a northerly direction, while it came up to Parsonage Green on the easterly side. When this Ralph Bower died, or rather, some time after his death, in effecting a division of his estate by arbitration, the Hawthorn was cut into sections by making Hawthorn-lane and Kennerley's-lane, and to William, a son of the said Ralph Bower, fell that portion of the Hawthorn estate now called The Grove. Soon after this the Grove House was built for an inn and posting-house, and this it was for many years. William Bower, like his father, was, in a small way, a cotton manufacturer in Wilmslow, and he had a mill on Mill-brow, behind where Isaac Sumner lives in Church-street. This mill was pulled down when Pownall Hall was re-built about the year 1836. This William Bower was the father of George Bower, an attorney-at-law, to whose memory there is a stained-glass window in Wilmslow Church, and also of the late Misses Isabella and Ann Bower, of The Grove. Hawthorn Hall was owned by Ralph Bower of Wilmslow a son of Ralph Bower of Chorley and from him it descended to his youngest daughter Eliza Bower recently deceased. She appears to have only had a life interest. Mr Ralph Bower of Wilmslow, a great grandson of the first Ralph is heir at law; but whether the estate will descend to him is just now, doubtful.

I have been somewhat more lengthy on the Bower family than I ought to have been, and I am trying your patience. My excuse is that Ralph Bower, of Chorley, was very intimately connected with the history of Wilmslow at an important epoch—say, about a hundred years back. He was a contemporary of the first Mr Greg, of Styal, who has found a prominent place in our history, and for noticing this Ralph Bower at some length it may be further urged on my behalf, he was a born Chorley man, a native of Wilmslow parish. Gorst House, an antiquated mansion on the Knutsford road in Chorley, formerly belonged as an appanage to the Hawthorn estate. It was inherited by and now belongs to Mr William Gouldthorpe, barrister-at-law, a great-grandson of Ralph Bower, of Chorley.

We have a few other old places in Chorley which I shall mention—and only mention—as they may suggest connections in the minds of some. We have Orrell's Well, Fowden-lane, Grange House, Lingard's, Lydgate, &c. With this I must leave Chorley and its history.

After the very interesting lecture by the rector on church architecture in general, and that of Alderley

Church in particular, it is not necessary that I should dwell upon the subject. Besides, I think you will all be more or less familiar with the historic pile, considering the associations that are interwoven in its history. A short reference, however, to the good Bishop Stanley, of Norwich, may be allowed. In the rectory adjoining the churchyard for long years dwelt Edward Stanley, brother to the first Lord Stanley, rector of Alderley, afterwards Bishop of Norwich. In this quiet spot, and in his rural walks and rides along the hursts and shaws and lanes, and upon the beetling cliffs of the Edge of his large parish, in addition to his sacred vocation, he studied birds, and insects, and plants; and from this place he gave to the world his valued books upon natural history. He was always a man of the widest sympathies, and his daily life was a communing with nature, and the diffusion of a glow of warm Christian charity and loving kindness. We might almost expect to find such a son as Dean Stanley from such a father and from such associations. Bishop Stanley was a man far ahead of his times. While rector of Alderley his parochial school was the best in the locality, and he himself superintended the whole of the work of his large cure. Nothing was too small for him. In the school hard by he superintended the education of the boys, and in the Radnor Mere in the park he taught them to swim. In every way he was the kind helper and friend of his flock. It only strikes me while writing that fifty years back, or rather more, in Wilmslow National School, I received a prize from the hand, and was kindly admonished by the voice of one of the highest type of men the world has seen, a gentlemanly English clergyman of the old school, a man of the highest culture and of the most excellent moral worth. Edward Stanley, then rector of Alderley, and afterwards Bishop of Norwich.

I have kept you too long already. I can only ask you to notice the very good specimen of the old timbered structure, the ancient village inn in which we met, and must also point out the picturesque old corn mill; and also the site of Alderley old hall, burnt down a hundred years back, and not rebuilt, and you must not forget to pay attention to one of the best specimens of an ancient cross in existence, which you will find on the way to the station.

A vote of thanks was moved and seconded to Mr Norbury for his interesting paper, which was pronounced a valuable addition to the literature of the county, and as the shades of evening were falling fast the party made their way to Alderley Station *en route* for Manchester, all agreeing that this the last excursion of the year had been a most enjoyable and profitable one.

Leigh.

WILLIAM NORBURY.

## THE ANGLO-NORMANS IN FLINTSHIRE.

Mr Henry Taylor read a paper at Chester the other day upon "Edward the First and his Favours." I had expected to find in it something like an exhaustive account of the lands the king had granted to Englishmen in North Wales, but the record is a very meagre one, and, so far as I can see, contains next to no new information. I am not saying that to Mr Taylor's prejudice, for until the Record Office can supply us with full information we cannot, of course, expect to see results in a satisfactory form. According to this document, Edward crossed the river Dee on his way to Flint in July, 1277, and between that time and the death of Llewellyn we may presume he was occupied, off and on, in subjugating the Welsh to English rule. We read of him as being at Flint, Rhuddlan, and Conway, erecting and improving his strongholds, but if it be true that all "the land between the city of Chester and the river Conway" had "for ages been claimed by the English to be included within the Palatinate of Chester," Edward does not seem to have made much progress in his suit until the Welsh prince had been slaughtered in the neighbourhood of the Wye, in Radnorshire. The old, old story of how the Welsh and the Saxons had kept up their ancient feuds in the neighbourhood of Chester can have no peculiar interest to us, for, unlike the Duke of Westminster, I do not attach any importance to the inquiry whether Harold died at Chester or not, but the accession of William the Conqueror to the English throne, the settlement of Hugh Lupus at Chester, the introduction of the Normans to the Welsh borders, are one and all of them matters with which we have to do, for after all they are but introductory to the reign of Edward the First, and in relation to his doings in North Wales we naturally desire to know how far his predecessors had worked their way into that country, and what they did there when they gained a settlement upon the soil.

There is an old British fortress at a place called Caergwle (in Flintshire), and within sight of Chester. It dominates over a considerable stretch of country which, for convenience, we may call Hopesdale; then we reach Hawarden Castle, which, in its turn, overshadows the Flintshire valley of the Dee; and not very far from it lies Ewloe Castle, commanding a dingle, or pass, between the upper reaches of the country and Hawarden itself. Did William the Conqueror at any time possess himself of these strongholds, either by himself or through the Earl of Chester? And, if he did so, is there any evidence to show that Englishmen had settled upon the lands contiguous to them, and to what extent? I have drawn the line at Hawarden, because so much of Flintshire as lies east of it, and bounded by the rivers Dee and

Alyn, is still looked upon as more English than Welsh; whereas the lands lying west of Hawarden, and bounded by the Dee, right down to Rhuddlan, have been Welsh beyond all doubt, and until Edward the First erected Flint Castle I cannot satisfy my own mind that the English settler could be found in that part of the country. Mr Taylor does not assert the contrary, but he leaves it to be implied, and hence he opens the door to the inquiry as to how far Englishmen had gained "settlement" in Flintshire before Edward had gained the entire country for himself. Now we know for a fact that Llywelyn and his predecessors had a palace at Macumynau, near Caerwys, and it may be assumed that if the English had acquired power between Hawarden and Rhuddlan, they commanded the means to surround the Welsh Princes, and in short to defeat them; but if the Welsh writers themselves are to be believed, they did nothing of the kind, and the English "claim" to jurisdiction over so much of North Wales as lay between Chester and Rhuddlan had no real foundation, and that practically Edward was the first English sovereign who could claim to rule there, and this leads me to reflect upon the policy of that king. Was it his aim to overawe the Welsh by importing Englishmen into Flintshire, or was he content to try and gain the hearts of the people, and to secure their true allegiance in that way? The answer to that enquiry seems to me to be found in the presentation of Edward II. to the chieftains at Rhuddlan, as their Prince, and in the enactment of his well known statutes of Rhuddlan, under which the Welsh (as it seems to me) gained greatly. And if I am correct in these surmises, is it not evident that, apart from the strongholds themselves, this wise sovereign was content to allow the Welsh to enjoy their lands and possessions in peace. I even go so far as to believe that the Flintshire people did not join in any insurrection against the king, and that Griffith Lloyd's insurrection was confined to the mountain, or hill tribes, and that both he and they were moved into it because their lands had been granted to the Grays, who lorded it over the Welsh in a fashion which was both unjust and illegal.

Confining my attention then to Flintshire proper, and excluding its castles and some of the adjacent lands from our consideration, may we not ask if Edward did at any time confer "favours," in the sense intended by Mr Taylor, upon any of his retainers in that part of the Principality? If we adopt the Herald's books as our guides, it seems to me that the Flintshire landowners continued to be Welshmen for long after Edward's time. In any case it remains to be proved otherwise, and now that Mr Taylor has raised the question so fairly, we may hope that the matter in issue will be investigated with care, and that we may have some authoritative evidence to follow *pro et contra*.

A CHESHIRE ANTIQUARY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1886.

## Notes.

### BULLOCK SMITHY.

In the first volume of the old series of *CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES* may be found many contributions having for their subject the origin of the name Bullock Smithy. Some correspondents attributed its origin to the founding of a smithy by a man named Bullock, but could advance no proof in support of the tradition; others concluded that at this place was located a smithy for the purpose of tipping the hoofs of Scotch bullocks that used to travel this way for the London and other southern markets. The nearest approach to the date when the name may be said to have originated is a quotation from the Stockport Parish Registers, an entry in which reads as follows:

December, 1592.

Nicholas Manley Slayne, at Bullock Smithy, was buried the 15th.

Some thirty years later (17 James I.), in a perambulation of the bounds of Macclesfield Forest in the presence of Sir Urian Legh, the boundary of the Forest at Torkenton were described as being from "Prestbury by the direct way before you as far as a certain hill anciently called Norbury Low, lying near a house called Bullock Smithy, and on the western side of the aforesaid way."

In view of the approaching jubilee for celebrating the change of name from Bullock Smithy to Hazel Grove, Mr O. T. Tallent-Bateman, solicitor, of Manchester, has forwarded to us for publication the original lease granted by "John Torkenton, of Torkenton, gentleman," to "Richard Bullocke, blacke Smythe, of Torkenton," and dated May 1, 1560, by which lease the origin of the name Bullock Smithy may be said to be established. For the benefit of our readers we append a transcription of it, which is as follows:

This indenture made the ffyrst Daye of Maye in the second yere of the Reigne of our Sovereigne ladie Elizabeth By the grace of god Quene of England ffraunce and Yreland Deffendr of the faith Betwene John Torkenton of Torkenton in the countie of Chestr gentleman of thon ptie, and Richard Bullocke of Torkenton aforesaid blacke Smythe of thother ptye, wittnesse the that the forsaid John Torkenton for and in consideracon of a serten some of money vnto hym aforesaid paide by the said Richard Bullocke and for Dyurs others gud Causes and consideracons hym yrunto movinge, hathe Sett, Demyssed graunted betaken and to ferme letten also by thez prsente indentures Dothe Sett Demyssed graunte betake and to ferme lett vnto the said Richard bullocke and his assignes, and vnto eury of theym all

that his messuage and ten'te and also a smethye yrtto belongynge wt all and Singuler theyre apprtenance Sett lyenge and beinge in Torkenton aforesaid and nowe in the tenure holdinge and occupacon of the said Richard bullocke, To have hold occupie and peaceablye enyoie all the forsaid messuage ten't and smethye wt all howsinge buyldinge Orcharde gardens meadowes leasues fedinge pastures comons of pasture and trbarye and also Crophe of treis and vnderwoodde and others comodities p'asette easymente and advauntages what so eyur they be and shalbe, To the said messuage ten't smethye and others the prmyssees belongynge or in anye wyse apprtaynyng wtall and Singuler theyre apprtenance and to and wt all wayes gates patthes and patthe wayes affore vsed and accustomed and also a sufficient waye ffrom the said messuage and others the prmyssees to fetche and Dryve throwe one serten grounde called the long meadowe from tyme to tyme and att all tymes To him the forsaid Richard Bullocke his executors administrators and assignes and to the assigney and assignes of every of theym to theyre most prffett and advantage wtowte anye manor lett vexacon Disturbance suyte att lawe or incomberance of hym the forsaid John Torkenton his heyres executors administrators or assignes or of anye of theym or of anye other person or persons for theym in theyre names Righte titles or intraste or otherwyse by theyre wylls procuremente commandemente consente or assente ffrom the Daye of makinge hereof vnto thend and trme and for and Duringe all the trme of twentie and one yeres then and ffrom thence next and immediatlye ensuenge and fully to be compleite and ended yeldinge and payeng yrfore yeralye Duringe the said trme to the forsaid John Torkenton his heyres or assignes the some of ixs. and ijd. of gud and lawfull money of England att the feiste of the Nativitie of Saynt John Baptiste and Saynt Martyn the byshoppe in wyntr or wthin xxi Dayes next and immediatlye ensuenge eyther of the said feaste by even and equall porcons yf ytt be and shalbe ffrom tyme to tyme lawfullye asked and demanded of hym the said Richard Bullocke and his assignes by the forsaid John Torkenton his heyres executors administrators or assignes, for all manor Rente seruice harrcotte increasez incomms Duties and Demynnde what so enyr they be and shalbe and to the forsaid, messuage and others the prmyssees belongynge or in anye wyse apprtaynyng, and also beinge Due vnto the said John Torkenton his heyres and assignes or vnto the heyres or assignes of anye of theym for and Duringe all the

trme of xxjti yeres afforesaid, and also the forsaid Richard bullocke couenantithe and grauntithe To and wt the forsaid John Torkenton by thez presente That he the forsaid Richard bullocke his executors administrators and assignes and eury of of theym shall and wyll vphold and maynteyne all Repracons of the prmysse well and Sufficientlye and also tenantable for and Duringe all the trme of xxjti yeres afforesaid, and furthermore the said John Torkenton Couenantithe and grauntithe for hym selfe and his heyres and for eury of theym To and wt the forsaid Richard Bullocke his executors administrators and assignes and to and wt the assigney and assignes of eury of theym by thez presente, That he the said John Torkenton his heyres executors administrators and assignes and eury of theym from tyme to tyme and att all tyme and tymes hereafter att the Request and Desyre of the said Richard Bullocke his executors administrators and assignes and att the Request and Desyre of thassigney and assignes of eury of theym and also vpon they e coste and charges in the lawe shall and wyll Do Suffice make knowledge Seale and Delyur Or cause to be Done Suffred made knowledged Sealed and Delyured for theyre D de vnto the forsaid Richard bullocke his executors administrators and assignes and vnto the assigney and assignes of eury of theym all and eury suche other and further assurannce and assurannce in the lawe as shall mey and can be Devised or advised by the counsell learned in the lawe of the said Ricd. bullocke his executors administrators and assignes and by the counsell learned of the assigney and assignes of eury of theym to be Done Suffred made knowledged Sealed and Delyured as well for the bettr assurannce and sure makinge of all the forsaid messuage and the other p mysses wt theyre appurtenances to hym the forsaid Richard bullocke his executors administrators and assignes and vnto thassigney and assignes of eury of theym for and Duringe all the trme of xxiti. yeres afforesaid and accordinge to the tenure forme effecte and tone meanyng of thez presente indentures as also for the quyet and yerelye occupacon yrof for and Duringe the trme of other xvti yeres then and ffrom thence next and Immediatlye ensuenge Then payenge yrfore the forsaid Rente of ixs and ijd yerelye wt Suyte and seruys affore this tyme Due and accustomed and for the true p'formance of all and Singuler articles covenante graunte prmessez and agremente vpon the behalffe of the said John Torkenton his executors administrators and assignes and vpon the behalffe and p'tie of eury of theym specified in the p'sente indentures, the said John Torkenton is agreed to bynd hym selfe and his heyres and eury of theym to the forsaid Richard bullocke by this wrytinge obligatorie beyrynge Date wt thez p'sente

in the some of fourtye pounde of gud and lawfull money of England, In wittness whereof the p'tis aforesaid in thez p'sente indentures interchangeablye have sett theyre seale the daye and the yere ffyrst above wrytten.

On the back of the lease is the following endorsement:

Sealed and Delyured in the presence of Thomas Nicholson Rauffe Nicholson John Bezweke wt others.

In the *Manchester City News* of June 7th, 1884 appeared the following:—On February 1, 1606, the freehold reversion in the above smithy was vested in "Richard Wilbraham, of Wichmalbanke (Nantwich), in the countie of Chester gent" who on that date demises the "Smeythe" (which was it appears "nowe or late in the tenure . . . of Nycholas Heginbothom") to "Randle Heginbothom and George Heginbothom, sonnes of Nycholas Heginbothom, of Marple, in the countie of Chester, yoman" for "fower score and tenn yeares" or the lives of the two Heginbothoms, and of Nicholas, sonn of Antonie Heginbothom, of Marple, aforesaid, or of the survivor of them.

The small estate comprising the Smithy and a farm (then known as "Heginbothom's farme") in 1651 belonged, as has been gathered from later deeds, to the family of Wrights, of Offerton; and in the following year, was sold by the Wright's to George Higinbothom, of Torkinton, yeoman, who was in possession as owner in 1662.

Perhaps some correspondent can supply the history of the estate down to the present day.

Fifty years ago the inhabitants of Bullock Smithy decided upon changing its name, and from that time the thriving hamlet lying on each side of the road bisecting the townships of Bosden, Torkington, Norbury, and Bramall, has been known by the more euphonious title of Hazel Grove. In our next and subsequent issues it is intended to reprint the account of the celebration as contained in the files of the *Stockport Advertiser* of that period. EDITOR.

#### SOSS MOSS HALL.

Mr J. P. Earwaker, in his *East Cheshire*, has the following relating to Soss Moss Hall, Cheshire:—

Soss Moss was for many years the property and residence of a family named Wyche. They were originally settled at Davenham, co. Chester, but on the marriage of Thomas Wyche, of Davenham, gent., with Margaret, daughter and sole heiress of William Barnes, of Nether Aldarley, he came to live in this township. It is probable that this small estate had belonged to the Barneses', but from the name and date, T. WYCHE, 1583, on a stone in the large chimney-stack of the picturesque building, it is clear that he was the builder or rebuilder of the present Soss

Moss Hall. His brother, Richard Wyche, settled in London, and was father of the celebrated Sir Peter Wyche, Knt., who became a member of the Privy Council, and was for twelve years ambassador to Constantinople. He was knighted by Charles I., and died at Oxford in Dec., 1643, leaving issue. His grandson, Sir Cyrill Wyche, was created a baronet on 30th December, 1729, but the baronetcy became extinct in 1756.

Thomas Wyche died on January 27th, 1615-16, and his inquisition *post mortem* was taken in 1619, and found that Richard Wyche was his son and next heir, and aged 38 years. Richard Wyche, gent., died on July 14th, and was buried at Alderley on July 16th, 1659, his son and heir-apparent, Richard Wyche, having died without issue on November 8th, 1658. He was therefore succeeded by his second son, William Wyche, of Alderley and Davenham, gent., who entered his pedigree in the Cheshire Visitation of 1663, when he is described as being then 38 years of age. He was buried at Alderley on May 13th, 1673, leaving his estates to his son and heir, William Wyche, gent., who lived to a great age, being buried at Alderley on January 21st, 1750-1, as William Wyche, of Soes Moss, gentleman, aged 91 and upwards.

His eldest son, William Wyche, then aged about 57, succeeded him, and sold Soes Moss to Sir Edward Stanley of Alderley, Bart., in 1751, and it now forms part of the Stanley estates.

I have no manner of doubt that the Wyches formerly of Lacey-green, and afterwards of Burley Hurst, were the descendants of this family. Thomas Wyche, of Burley Hurst, had three sons, John, William, and Thomas, the same Christian names, and there was a Dick Wyche in the family. When I was a registrar of births, I registered a child of one of this family as Be la Wyche-Leach, clearly showing that they claimed descent from this family. Dame Fanny Barlow, of Wilmslow, was sister to Thomas Wyche, of Burley Hurst.

W. NORBURY

## Queries.

NEW VIEWS OF EARLY VIRGINIA HISTORY.—I am very anxious to write a full and fair history of the founding of Virginia—with brief biographies of the founders—and I will be very grateful to anyone for any data or information that may be of any value to me in my work. The colony of Virginia was founded by the Virginia Company of London, in a country claimed by Spain, against the continued protest of that power; and Virginia and the Virginia Company of London were constantly under Spanish espionage. In 1624 the Virginia Company of London was dissolved,

and all of their records were placed by the order of James I. into the hands of a Royal Commission, and I doubt if any of this data which passed into the hands of this commission, from which a full and fair history of our Genesis might have been compiled, has ever been found. The commission were ordered "to take into their hands and custody all charters, Letters-patentes, grantes and Instructions, all Bookes, orders, Letters, Advices, and other Writings and thinges in any wise concerning the colony and company of Virginia, in whose hands soever the same be." Copies of these things remain; but where are the originals? I have published the names of the commission with the hope that some of their present representatives may be able to tell us something as to what has become of the original records of the founding of a New World! Soon after the dissolution of the Virginia Company of London, Captain John Smith's General History of Virginia, &c., was published, and for nearly *two hundred and forty years* our historians were forced by the lack of other evidence to rely almost entirely on this book for early Virginia historical data; but this book was not compiled from the early records of the Virginia Company, it was entirely a personal affair. Captain Smith had been an officer (of the company's) in Virginia, who failed to give satisfaction, and was removed from his position. Of course he had friends among his faction in Virginia, and he evidently had sympathisers in England also, who thought the managers of the Virginia Company had dealt too harshly with him; but the managers were certainly most competent of estimating correctly the value of the services of their servants; their interest and affairs were at stake; it was most essentially to their interests for them to judge carefully and correctly in the premises; they were the legal and responsible judges in the matter, and their verdict should be regarded as decisive. The prime object of Captain Smith's book was a special plea for himself, as against their decision. It is intensely partizan, very condemnatory of others, and most laudatory of himself. The narrative is incomplete, inaccurate, and unjust; but "it was almost the only source from which our old historians derived any knowledge of the infancy of our State," and thereby, I believe, a stigma has been cast upon many of the founders, and a very narrow idea of the founding of Virginia has been conveyed. I have obtained copies of every remaining co-temporary reference to Virginia, during 1606-1619, in manuscript or in print, the existence of which is known to me, save some things at Hatfield House, Hertfordshire; at Knole Park, Kent; at Condover Hall, Shropshire; at Crow-Combe Court, Somerset; and at "The Trinity House," London, England. But, I believe, there are many things in the premises, somewhere in the world, the existence of which is still unknown to me, and I will always be very grateful for any information regarding them.

Norwood Va, U.S.A.

ALEXANDER BROWN.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1886.

## Notes.

## STOCKPORT PARISH REGISTERS.

VII.

SEPTEMBER, 1592.

## BAPTISED.

- 10.—John Grantham of Stock had a chyld baptizd.  
 17.—Elizabeth daughter of John Dickinson of Levensam.  
 17.—Joan daughter of Thomas Jackson of Stock.  
 21.—Josua daughter of Lawrence Taylor of Torkinton.  
 22.—Willm Bowker of Bramhall had a chyld baptizd.  
 22.—Willm Bowker of Bramhall had a chyld baptizd.

This double entry evidently has reference to the same child, only that in the Register there are three other entries between them. As will be seen below, it is followed by a marriage on the same date, the same marriage being entered again under the 25th. To make it plainer I give the entries in the order set down in the Register as follows:

*Willm Bowker of Bramhall had a chyld baptizd the 22nd.*

*John Daniell and Catherine Chadweek were marryd the 22nd.*

John Casson of Stockp buried the 22nd.

The wyfe of Ambrose Robynson of Stock also buried the 22nd.

*Willm Bowker of Bramhall had a chyld baptizd the 22nd.*

Robte Marshall and Jane Leadebeater were marryd the 22nd.

John Warren of Offerton was buried the 22nd.

*John Danyell and Katherine Chadweek were marryd the 22nd.*

The entries that are in duplicate I give in italics. It will also be observed that two of the names in the marriage entry are spelled different to those in the first entry, and that there is a difference of three days in the date.

- 29.—Raffe Didsbury of Woodley had a chyld baptizd.

## MARRIED.

- 10.—Robte Pownall and Cycely Ecrod.  
 12.—Godffrey Bancroft and Jane Baguley.  
 22.—John Daniell and Catherine Chadweek.  
 22.—Robte Marshall and Jane Leadebeater.  
 25.—John Danyell and Katherine Chadweek.  
 27.—Richard Brook and Margery Nicolson.

## BURIED.

- 3.—The daughter of Hugh Robothom of Romiley.  
 4.—The Wydow Mottershead of Bramhall.  
 11.—Catherine wyf of Peter Sydebotham of Remiley.

- 11.—Thomas Lingard of Brinnington.  
 13.—Alex Arderne of Stock.  
 13.—Robte Wharnby of Torkinton.  
 15.—Wydow Hibbert of Stock.  
 16.—Thomas Collyer of Bredbury had a chyld buried.  
 17.—The wyfe of Raffe Leighe of Bramhall.  
 18.—Olde Wyddow Wyche of Marple.  
 21.—THE WYFE OF JOHN TORKINTON OF TORKINTON GENT WAS BURYED THE 21st.  
 22.—John Casson of Stockp.  
 22.—The wyfe of Ambrose Robynson of Stock.  
 22.—John Warren of Offerton.  
 25.—Oulde Edmund Hybbert of the Shawhouse.  
 29.—Lawrence Wharneby of Bosson.

OCTOBER, 1592.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Robte sonne of Willm Smith of Brinnington.  
 1.—Edward sonne of Willm Pemberton of Stock.  
 8.—Margret daughter of Willm Nicholson of Stock.  
 15.—BETTRICE THE DAUGHTER OF EDWARD VAWBERT OF THE KIDDINGS GENT WAS BAPTIZED THE 21st.  
 15.—Raffe sonne of Raffe Smith of Bramhall junior.  
 15.—Elizabeth daughter of Alex Smith of Stock.  
 22.—Willm sonne of Richard Brewer of Bramhall.  
 28.—JANE THE DAUGHTER OF RAFFE ARDERNE OF BREDBURY GENT WAS BAPTIZED THE 28th.

## MARRIED.

- 1.—Raffe Chorlton and Elizabeth Shelmerydne.  
 8.—James Bowker and Jane Davemporte.  
 13.—Geffrey Ryle and Elizabeth Downes.  
 22.—John Rowbotham and Katherine Richardson.  
 24.—James Mellor and Ales Swyndells.  
 26.—Raffe Seele and Ales Norton.  
 31.—Edward Brundreth and Margery Walker.

## BURIED.

- 1.—A chyld of Willm Thornileys of the Hallhouse.  
 2.—John Croaley of Stock.  
 8.—The wyfe of Raffe Stockporte of Bradbury.  
 9.—Hughe Daniell of Bramhall.  
 10.—The wyfe of William Cowp of Bramhall.  
 14.—Willm Ashton of Hyde.  
 20.—John Goodyer of Stock.  
 24.—The wyfe of Reginolde Gee of the Gee Crosse.  
 25.—The wyfe of John Dykinson of Levensam.

NOUEMBER, 1592.

## BAPTISED.

- 3.—George sonne of John Cartwright of Stock.  
 3.—Willm sonne of Charles Sydebotham of Werneth.  
 5.—Robtesonne of Raffe Lowe of Denton.

- 12.—Margret daughter of Robte Deane of Northbury.  
 12.—George sonne of Raffe Unwyn of Marple.  
 17.—John Low of Denton had two children baptized.  
 26.—Margery daughter of Edwarde Kempe of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 22.—Raffe Hibbert and Isabell Hunte.

BURIED.

- 1.—Edwarde Johnson of Bredbury.  
 2.—Elizabeth Obeetham of the Yewtree in Bredbury.  
 2.—Oulde Wyddow Rowbothom als Beacom of Marple.  
 6.—Robte Marshall of Bramhall.  
 7.—The wyfe of Edwarde Johnson of Bradbury.  
 10.—Geffrey Didsbury of Stock.  
 12.—KATHERNE THE WIFE OF ROBTE DAVENPORT GENT. DIED AT NORBURY HALL AND WAS BURIED THE 17TH.  
 18.—Henry flogg of Offerton had a chyld buried.  
 20.—A chyld of Richard Bennetsons of Bredbury.  
 23.—Anne daughter of Willm Marsland of Werneth.  
 26.—The wyfe of Henry flogg of Offerton.  
 26.—Thomas Garnett of Stock.

DECEMBER, 1592.

BAPTISED.

- 22.—Jane daughter of Thomas Hulme of Redich.  
 26.—Robtesonne of Robte Daniell of the Shaw Heath.

MARRIED.

- 4.—Thomas Ouldham and Isabell Cluson.  
 4.—Thomas Browne and Katherine Ryle.  
 10.—Georg Baguley and Jane Ashton.  
 22.—John Hobson and Jane Hulme.

BURIED.

- 4.—George Daniell of the Hilgate.  
 4.—Joan Ogden of Stock wydow.  
 7.—John Elcock of the Hilgate.  
 15.—Nicholas Manley slayne at Bullock Smithy.  
 15.—Joan Hall of Redich.  
 18.—The wyfe of Robte Potter of the Market street.  
 22.—Robte Henshaw of Bosson.

JANUARY, 1593.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Edward sonne of Peter Hey.  
 12.—Willm Taylor of Bradbury had a chyld bap.  
 14.—Rebecca daughter of Thomas Humffrey.  
 19.—Thomas sonne of Robynson of Denton.  
 21.—Edward sonne of John Henshaw of Bramhall.  
 26.—Olyver Shaw sonne of Robte Shaw of the Moore Syde.  
 26.—Rafhe sonne of Rafhe Hurst of Bramhall.

BURIED.

- 1.—THOMAS SYKES CURATE OF STOCK.

- 15.—Margret Hough of Offerton wydow.  
 17.—John Jackson of Brynnington had a chyld bur.  
 18.—James Wharnby of Torkinten had a chyld bur.  
 21.—The wyfe of James Wharnby of Torkinton.

FEBRUARY, 1592.

BAPTISED.

- 19.—John sonne of Roger Browne of the Hilgate.  
 23.—Anne daughter of George Travis of Levensam.  
 24.—George sonne of Robte Ridgeway of Offerton.  
 26.—Katherne daughter of John Sydebotham of Henshaw Houses.  
 26.—George sonne of Oddywell Dodge of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 4.—Nicholas Tayler and Anne Wood.  
 4.—Humffrey Barker and Jane Holte.  
 12.—Geffrey Allen and Cycely Wood.  
 12.—Richard Hudson and Jane Jackson.  
 26.—GEORGE HILTONES ESQUIRE AND MARGARET THE DAUGHTER OF ROBTE HYDE OF NORTHBURY ESQUIRE WERE MARRIED THE 26TH.

BURIED.

- 1.—Willm Taylor of Marple.  
 2.—Robte Jackson of Brinnington.  
 3.—Humffrey Wright of Echulls.  
 3.—Mawde Cottrell of Poynton.  
 9.—Oulde Sharshaw of Offerton.  
 12.—Rafhe Brook of Heaton had a chyld bur.  
 12.—Wydow Dodge of Offerton.  
 23.—Elizabeth daughter of Ambrose Robynson of Stock.  
 23.—Thomas Rodes of Werneth.  
 29.—Richard Whittakers of Adswood.

MARCH, 1592.

BAPTISED.

- 2.—PHILLIPPE THE SONNE OF RICHARD GERARD PARSON OF STOCKPORT WAS BAPTISED THE 2TH.  
 2.—Ales daughter of John Wynne of Stock.  
 4.—Katherne daughter of John Browne.  
 4.—Anne daughter of George Bowerhouse of Heaton.  
 16.—James sonne of Christopher Lowe of Marple.  
 16.—John sonne of Thomas flynney.  
 16.—Ellen daughter of Richard Downes.

BURIED.

- 12.—Elizabeth Janney servant in Stock.  
 16.—Ales daughter of George Barnes of Marple.  
 17.—The wyf of Richard Hall of the Hilgate.  
 20.—The wyf of John Jackson of Brynnington.  
 22.—The wyf of Henry Seale of Stock.

MARCH, 1593.

BAPTISED.

- 25.—Ellen daughter of Thomas Baker of Bramhall.

25.—Oycely daughter of George Brookshaw of Bradbury.

25.—Margret a daughter of Ranulph Sidebothams of Marple

25.—Joseph sonne of Margret Higham.

25.—Raffe sonne of James Smith of Stock.

#### BURIED.

25.—Margret Ecrood of Marple.

30.—The wyf of Willm Ryder of Haughton.

#### APRILL, 1593.

##### BAPTISED.

1.—Anne daughter of John Howden of the parish of Eccles.

6.—Anne daughter of Olyver Dodge.

8.—JOHN THE SONNE OF WILLIAM DAUMPORTE OF THE GOIT GENT WAS BAPTISED THE 8TH.

8.—John sonne of Peter Platt of Romiley.

16.—Godfrey sonne of Godfrey Herod of Stock.

22.—Ales daughter of John Oldham of Stock.

22.—Margret daughter of John Burgess of Stock.

##### MARRIED.

17.—Thomas Adshead and Jane Syddall.

29.—Robte Redich and Elizabeth Bagleye.

##### BURIED.

1.—Margret daughter of Ranulph Sydebothams of Marple.

2.—Wydow Stanley of Marple.

3.—The wyfe of Raffe Taylor of Northbury.

10.—Oulde Thomas Bancroft of Marple.

23.—A young chyld of Robte Lees of Stock.

24.—Katherne Fooofelde of Stock.

26.—The wyfe of Alex Bancroft of Gatley.

#### MAY, 1593.

##### BAPTISED.

4.—John sonne of John Hobson of Levensam.

4.—Robte sonne of John Highams of Romiley.

4.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Pollard of Stock.

6.—Robte sonne of Richard Choonall of Barwick Hill.

19.—Richard sonne of John Robynson of Stock.

19.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Squire of the Shaw Heath.

19.—Elizabeth daughter of Richard Haughton of Haughton.

27.—Anne daughter of Willm Ashton of Werneth.

27.—Susanna daughter of John Booth of Rediche.

27.—Greenside daughter of Thomas Johnson of Werneth.

##### MARRIED.

19.—Nicholas Wynnington and Elizabeth Bridghouse.

19.—Richard Walker and Ales Ryle.

23.—Alex Ashton and Margret Wynterbotham.

23.—James Daniell and Joane Bancrofte

##### BURIED.

4.—Alex Hunts of Stock.

13.—Ellen Mosse of the Bowerhouse in Heaton.

#### JUNE, 1593.

##### BAPTISED.

1.—Anne daughter of John Mosse of the Bowerhouse in Heaton.

3.—Isabell daughter of John Mosse *als* Bowerhouse

9.—John sonne of John Leighe of Woodley.

9.—Katherne daughter of Brookshaw of Bradbury.

15.—Elizabeth daughter of Ranulph Thorniley of Romiley.

22.—Ellen daughter of John Hadfields of Bramhall

##### MARRIED.

3.—George Potter and Dorothy Brombell.

##### BURIED.

1.—John Hybbert of Bradbury.

10.—John Cooke of Stock had a chyld bur.

11.—Reginolds Gee of Gee Crosse.

13.—Jane Brombell of Stock.

20.—Raffe sonne of Raffe Hurst of Bramhall

24.—The wyfe of Henry Collier of Bradbury.

24.—The wyfe of Willm Ashton of the Spouthouse in Werneth.

27.—The wyfe of Willm Thorniley of Stockport Green

#### JULY, 1593.

##### BAPTISED.

15.—Otes sonne of Willm Nicholson.

25.—Ellen daughter of Alex Collier of the Yewtree

29.—Hughe sonne of John Rodes of Bramhall

30.—Thomas sonne of Ranneph Hulme of Offerton

##### MARRIED.

8.—Ranulph Hulme and Anne Richardson *als* John sonne.

9.—James Needham and Margrett Rosen.

23.—Lawrence Browne and Ellen Thorniley.

29.—Robte Higham and Ales Smith.

29.—John Burges and Margery Elcock.

##### BURIED.

6.—A chyld of Margret Wynningtons.

7.—Margery Moores of Stock.

23.—Margery Boland *als* Johnson.

25.—The wyfe of John Taylor of the Battresse *green*

25.—John Didsbury of Echulla.

#### AUGUST, 1593.

##### BAPTISED.

5.—Jane daughter of John Baguley of Redich

5.—Elizabeth daughter of Raphe Allen of the Ousegate.

10.—Edward Ashton of Werneth had a chyld bur

12.—Mary daughter of Edmund Hulme of Offerton

24.—SAMUELL THE SONNE OF EDWARD TORNTON OF TORRKINGTON GENT WAS BAPTISED THE 24TH

6.—Mary daughter of Henry Ashton of Hyde.

MARRIED.

2.—Edward Dooley and Elizabeth ffyton.

4.—Thomas Smith and Ellen Didsburye.

BURIED.

4.—Geffrey Brookshaw of Bradbury.

3.—George Slaney of Pointon Milne.

3.—John Hybbert of Northbury.

5.—The wyfe of Alex Low of Stockporte.

5.—The wyfe of Robte Higgenbotham of Marple.

SEPTEMBER, 1593.

BAPTISED.

1.—Margret daughter of George Cheestham of Stock.

1.—Edward Shaw of Northbury had a chyld baptised.

3.—Willm sonne of Ric. Colstill of Stock.

MARRIED.

2.—Humffrey Byrtenshaw and Margret Henshaw.

1.—Rt: RISLEY GENT AND ANNE THE DAUGHTER OF ROBERTE HYDE OF NORTHBURIE ESQUIER WERE MARRIED THE 11TH.

3.—Edward Smith and Jane Hall.

1.—James Chorlton and Anne Wynne.

1.—Reiginolde Thorniley and Cycely [blank].

BURIED.

1.—Robte Adshead of Torkinton.

3.—George Redich of Stock had a chyld bur.

1.—Edward Taylor of Northbury.

OCTOBER, 1593.

BAPTISED.

5.—Richard sonne of Laurence Warren of Offerton.

7.—Ales daughter of Ryebard Hudson of Brynnington.

7.—Anne daushter of Willm Bennetson of Dokenfield.

2.—Elizabeth daughter of John Heywood of Dokenfield.

9.—John sonne of Henry Hulme of Stock.

1.—Anne daughter of John Cartwright of Stock.

MARRIED.

4.—George Stanfield and Margery Higham.

3.—John Hall and Ellen Hexam.

1.—Anthony Arderne and Jane Williamson.

1.—Henry Hough and Ales Thorniley.

BURIED.

2.—John Churilton of Echulls.

4.—Ales Haughton of Haughton.

3.—Thomas Bullock of Marple.

9.—Ales Burges of the Shaw Heath.

9.—The wyfe of George Higgenbotham of Marple.

2.—The wyfe of Willm Hall of Bramhall.

9.—The daughter of Peter Sydebotham of Marple.

NOVEMBER, 1593.

BAPTISED.

4.—Jane daughter of John Lees of Redich.

12.—John sonne of Robte Brook of Rediche.

31.—Edward sonne of Nicholas Taylor of Stock.

MARRIED.

5.—Roger Rosson and Ales Dodge.

12.—Richard Fletcher and Jane Ogden.

13.—Thomas Higgenbotham and Mawde Upton.

BURIED.

5.—Raffe Low of Denton had a chyld bur.

6.—Ales daughter of Richard Hudson of Brynnington

8.—John Browne of Offerton.

11.—A chyld of Jane Henshaws

12.—Izabell Brookshaw of Lancashire bridgeend.

27.—John Rocroft of Bramhall.

27.—The wyfe of Willm Shakeshaft of Altringham.

DECEMBER, 1593.

BAPTISED.

14.—Leonarde sonne of Willm Rydgeway of Bramhall.

16.—Robte sonne of Robte fallowes of Stock.

19.—Robte sonne of Willm fletchers of Stock.

21.—Robte sonne of Raffe Dickenson of Stock.

21.—George sonne of George Newton of the Moersyde.

23.—John sonne of Thomas Brooks of Stock.

26.—Willm sonne of Richard Walker of Stock.

26.—Henry sonne of John Low of Offerton als Christerson.

26.—Anne daughter of Willm Thorniley of Stockport greave.

27.—Thomas sonne of Raffe Bennetson of Bradbury.

MARRIED.

2.—Willm Stanley and Margret Thorniley.

10.—Robte Thorniley and Margret Hope.

BURIED.

3.—The wyfe of Henry Ashton of Gee crosse.

3.—Thomas Hulme of Heaton Norres.

4.—Raffe sonne of Robte Garner of Stock.

9.—The wyfe of Willm Thorniley of the Bagbower.

12.—Wydow Woode of Stock.

23.—The wyfe of Henry Thorpe of Haughton.

29.—George Newton sonne of George Newton of the Moersyde.

JANUARY, 1593.

BAPTISED.

6.—Elizabeth daughter of Roger Low of Haughton.

6.—Robte sonne of George Chorlton of Heaton.

11.—Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Collier of Bradbury.

11.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Swyndalls of Romiley.

18.—John sonne of Willm Dannell of the Hilgate.

20.—Ales daughter of Robte Thorniley of the Bagbower.

- 20.—John sonne of Robte Thorniley of the Bagbower.  
 20.—Ales daughter of Willm Daniell.  
 20.—Laurence sonne of John Bradley of Redich.  
 27.—Willm sonne of Thomas Holt of Bramhall.  
 27.—James sonne of James Dickson of the Hilgate.  
 29.—Robte sonne of Thomas Shelmerden of Levensam.

## MARRIED.

- 2.—Henry Venables and Elizabeth Collier.  
 27.—Rainolde Leighe and Ellen Clare.  
 27.—Olyver Bamford and Elizabeth Shelmerdine.

## BURIED.

- 2.—The daughter of George Rowbotham of Marple named Ales.  
 10.—John sonne of Thomas Brook of Stock.  
 10.—A sonne of Alex Smiths of Stock.  
 11.—Isabell Thomston of Offerton wydow.  
 13.—Ales daughter of George Rowbotham of Marple.  
 14.—Geffrey Pearson of the Moorsyde.  
 14.—A chyld of Raffe Brooks of Heaton.  
 27.—The wyfe of Roger Leighe.  
 29.—The wyfe of James Bradburye, of Offerton.

## FEBRUARY, 1593.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Alexander sonne of Alexander Mosse of Stock.  
 8.—Willm sonne of James Meller of Torkinten.  
 8.—Ellen daughter of John Hydes.  
 12.—Raffe sonne of Thomas Oldham of Brynnington.  
 12.—Raffe sonne of Thomas Cheetham, of Woodley.  
 18.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Taylor of Levensam.  
 22.—Ellen daughter of John Collyer of Bredbury.  
 22.—Thomas sonne of Tho Latone of Werneth.  
 24.—Sara daughter of Peter Hey of Stock.  
 24.—Tho sonne of Alexander Newton of the Moorsyde.  
 24.—Englons daughter of Richard Halloms of the parish of Rachdale.

## MARRIED.

- 8.—Vyncent Thomson and Izabell Byrche.  
 8.—Willm Burdsell and Anne Taylor.  
 4.—HENRY BRADSHAW AND KATHERINE WYNNINGTON WERE MARRIED THE 4TH.

The Henry Bradshaw whose marriage is here recorded was the eldest son and heir of Henry Bradshaw, who purchased Marple Hall and lands in Marple and Wybberslegh from Sir Edward Stanley, K.B. He in turn, by his marriage with Katherine Wynnington, became the father of Henry Bradshaw, a colonel in the Parliamentary Army, and of John Bradshaw, the famous judge. Henry Bradshaw's wife Katherine was the last of the Wynningtons of Offerton, being the youngest daughter and co-heiress with her sister Anne (afterwards married to Lawrence Wright, of Mottram-St.-Andrew) of Ralph Wynnington, of Offerton. She died January 34, 1603, after ten years of married life. Her children were:—

- 1.—WILLIAM, baptised January 2, 1593-7; buried November 19, 1597, at Stockport.  
 2.—HENRY, baptised at Stockport January 2, 1600; buried there March 15, 1661, having been twice married.  
 3.—JOHN, baptised at Stockport December 10, 1602; buried November 22, 1659, in Westminster Abbey.  
 4.—FRANCIS, baptised at Stockport January 12, 1603, and was living in 1639.  
 5.—DOBOTHY, baptised at Stockport August 1, 1598, and married George Newton, of Newton-Longdendale, August 30, 1618.  
 6.—ANNE, baptised at Stockport November 1, 1599, and married John Fallowes, of Fallowes Hall, Alderley.

Henry Bradshaw, the father of these children, continued to live at Wyberslegh Hall until the death of his father at Marple Hall, which event took place in January, 1619-20. Respecting his three surviving sons given above they are here remembered by the following verse afterwards made in the judge's name:—

My brother Henry must heir the land;  
 My brother Frank must be at his command;  
 Whilst I, poor Jack, shall do that  
 Which all the world will wonder at.

Henry Bradshaw died in 1654, and was buried at Stockport August 3 in that year, having, along with his sons Henry and John, taken a prominent part in the national commotion which only closed with the restoration of Charles II.

## MARRIED.

- 4.—Robte Smith and Katherine Baguley.  
 4.—Willm Stockporte and Katherine Hyde.

## BURIED.

- 13.—Raffe sonne of Thomas Oldham of Brinnington.  
 27.—Anne daughter of Willm Sydebothom of Werneth.  
 27.—Ales daughter of Thomas Harrison of Werneth.

## MARCH, 1593.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Addehead de Byrche cliffe of the parish of Prestbury.  
 3.—Margery daughter of John Matley of Stock.  
 10.—Samuell sonne of Willm Taylor of the p<sup>ar</sup>ish of Manchester.  
 10.—Robte sonne of Nicholas Hulme of Levensam.  
 17.—Willm sonne of Raffe Nicholson of Redich.  
 17.—John sonne of Raffe Houghton of Houghton.  
 19.—Robte sonne of Robte Thorniley of Denton.

## BURIED.

- 1.—Ales daughter of Willm Baguley of Houghton.  
 9.—Willm Smith of Hyde.  
 9.—The wyfe of Lawrence Rowbothom of Offerton.  
 10.—The daughter of Willm Wykinson of Bramhall.  
 11.—The wyfe of James Meller of Torkinten.  
 21.—The wyfe of Edwards Smythe of the Hylgan.

MARCH, 1594.

BAPTISED.

- 25.—John sonne of Anthony Brooke of Stock.
- 25.—Olyver sonne of John Robynson of Stock.
- 25.—Mary daughter of Thomas Cheestham of Crookiley

MARRIED.

- 25.—William Baguley of Haughton.
- 28.—Thomas Hulme of Offerton.

APRILL, 1594.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—Anne daughter of Henry Broome of Levensam.
- 8.—Robte sonne of Willm Marsland of Werneth.
- 15.—Thomas Stockporte of Northbury had a chyld baptized.
- 21.—Jane daughter of Humfrey Dauenport of Stock.
- 28.—Abraham sonne of Thomas Shaw of Hyde.
- 28.—George sonne of George Potter of the Hilgate.
- 28.—**SUSANNA THE DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM DAVENPORT OF THE GOIT GENT WAS BAPTIZED ON THE 28TH.**

MARRIED.

- 21.—Willm fletcher and Ales Oty.
- 29.—Rondull Hankenson and Izabell Johnson.

BURIED.

- 5.—The wyfe of Robte Lees of Stock.
- 18.—Richard sonne of Raffe Hardy of the Bight bancke.

MAY 1594.

BAPTISED.

- 3.—Charles sonne of Reiginolde Ashton of Werneth.
- 3.—Katherne daughter of Raphe Dickson of Stock.
- 5.—Em daughter of Willm Hanley of Bradbury.
- 12.—Thomas sonne of Christopher Battersbye of Denton.
- 19.—Hamnet sonne of George Barlow of Haughton.

MARRIED.

- 9.—John Mosse and Elizabeth Seale.
- 9.—John Coughen and Ales Hyde.
- 12.—John Rydgewaye and Elizabeth Taylor.
- 13.—Ambrose Robynson and Joas Bennetson.
- 19.—Thomas Oldham and Elizabeth Hulme.

BURIED.

- 1.—James sonne of James Leigh of Torkinton.
- 10.—The wyfe of Robte Hudson of Heaton.

JUNE, 1594.

BAPTISED.

- 2.—Anne daughter of Humfrey Bertenshaw of Bramhall.
- 2.—Margret daughter of Raphe Woway of Bramhall.
- 3.—John Whittakers of Stock had a chyld baptized.
- 16.—**PENELOPE THE DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM DAVENPORT OF BRAMHALL ESQUIRE WAS BAPTIZED THE 16TH.**

According to *Earwaker*, this Penelope Davenport was the eighth child and fourth daughter of Sir William Davenport of Bramhall, her mother being Dorothy, daughter of John Warren, of Poynton. According to the same authority Penelope Davenport was married at Prestbury June 25, 1599, to Jasper Worth, of Tytherington, having just entered upon her *seventh year*.

- 19.—Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Ward *als* Hyde.
- 21.—George sonne of Leonard Harryson of Werneth.
- 28.—Willm sonne of Willm Thorniley of Stock.
- 30.—John Haxom had a chyld baptized.

MARRIED.

- 2.—fraunces Shrigley and Elizabeth Badger.
- 16.—Reginolde Pickforde and Elizabeth Echulla.
- 18.—Henry Smith and Ellen Daniell.
- 29.—Ottywell Blackwaye and Lucye Swyndells.

BURIED.

- 2.—Katherne Marsland of the Churchgate.
- 13.—Elizabeth Taylor of Bredbury.
- 14.—The wyfe of Thomas Rowbethom of Marple.
- 28.—Wydow Hudson of Heaton Norres.
- 28.—The wyfe of John Wharneby of Torkinton.

JULY, 1594.

BAPTISED.

- 5.—Katherne daughter of Robte Booth of Redich.
- 7.—John sonne of John Rediche of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 7.—John Rydings and Katherne Allen.

BURIED.

- 4.—Richard sonne of Henry Walker of Hyde.
- 7.—Wydow Booth of Hyde Banck.
- 9.—Henry sonne of Ottywell Rydge of Marple.
- 13.—James Rydgeway of Offerton.
- 24.—Ottywell Barlow of Heaton.

AUGUST, 1594.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Margery daughter of James Choriton of Stock.
- 11.—Grace daughter of Thomas Lane of Rediche.
- 11.—Robte sonne of Thomas Nicholson of Adswood.
- 11.—Mary daughter of Thomas Booth of Hyde bancke.
- 11.—Edward sonne of Willm Bennetson of the Goit.
- 11.—fraunces the chyld of Humfrey Stringer of Rediche.
- 18.—John sonne of Anthony Arderne of the Hilgate.
- 23.—Margery daughter of Willm fletcher of Stock.
- 30.—Ales daughter of Edmund Arnne of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 4.—Hughe Dauenporte and Jane Naden.

BURIED.

- 23.—Thomas Cheestham of Woodley.
- 27.—A chyld of Willm Burdsells of Stock.
- 28.—A chyld of Edward Dooles of Northbury.

## SEPTEMBER, 1594.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Anne daughter of Robte Hall of the Streethouse lane.  
 15.—John sonne of Robte Cheetham of Denton.  
 15.—Richard sonne of John Dickenson of Levensam.  
 22.—Dorothy daughter of Raphe Didsbury of Woodley.  
 22.—John sonne of George Brookshaw of Stock.  
 27.—Willm sonne of John Swyndells of Newbridge lane.

## MARRIED.

- 2.—John Bakester and Prudence Bexweek.  
 23.—Robte Hulme and Anne Bancroft.

## OCTOBER, 1594.

## BAPTISED.

- 6.—Margery daughter of Robte Rydings of Stock.  
 11.—Ales daughter of John Nicholson of Rediche.  
 11.—Anne daughter of Robte Gerves of Stock.  
 25.—John sonne of Edward Warrens of Stock shoemaker.  
 25.—Cyceley daughter of Willm Dickenson.  
 27.—Ellen daughter of Robte Higham of Romley.

## MARRIED.

- 13.—Rondull Woode and Elizabeth Barlow.  
 27.—Willm Hall and Elizabeth Pyrch.

## BURIED.

- 12.—Elizabeth Bardsley of Hyde spinster.  
 14.—Hughe Thorpe of Romley.  
 19.—Oulde John Taylor of the Buttresse greene in Bredbury.  
 25.—A chylde of John Henshaws of Bramhall.  
 27.—Willm Hanley of Bradbury neare Cleggyate.  
 29.—Elizabeth Wharneby, of Torkinton.

## NOUEMBER, 1594.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Hulme of Heaton Norres.  
 1.—Robte sonne of Olyver Bamford of Levensam.  
 3.—Thomas sonne of George Lomas of Offerton.  
 10.—James sonne of James Charleton of Stock.

## BURIED.

- 2.—Willm Rydgeway of Offerton minister.  
 9.—Ales daughter of Edward Orme of Stock.  
 13.—GEORGE STAFFORD OF THE BOTHEAMS HALL IN THE COUNTIE OF DARBIE GENTLEMAN WAS BURIED THE 13TH.

## DECEMBER, 1594.

## BAPTISED.

- 4.—Ellen daughter of John Cellier of Bredbury.  
 6.—Willm sonne of Willm Lees of Denton.  
 22.—Thomas Hobson of Levensam had a chyld baptized  
 22.—John sonne of Alex. Boswell of Stock.

## MARRIED.

- 9.—John Burdsell and Ales Dodge.

## BURIED.

- 24.—Raphe Mosse of the Bowerhouse dyed sad was buried.  
 25.—Thomas Smyth of the Hilgate had a chyld buried.

## JANUARY, 1594.

## BAPTISED.

- 5.—Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Hall of Redich.  
 5.—Margret daughter of Edmund Hulme of Redich.  
 5.—Ales daughter of Edward Kempe of Stock.  
 6.—The daughter of Henry Hulme of Stock baptised  
 12.—Martha daughter of Richard Hibbert of Werneth  
 12.—Ales daughter of George Syddall of Manchester  
 19.—Margret daughter of Robte Hulme of the Hudsash.  
 29.—Elizabeth daughter of John Low of Denton.  
 19.—Richard sonne of Laurence fallowes of Bramhall.  
 22.—Jane daughter of John Robynson of Brynnington.  
 24.—Alexander sonne of John Byrch.  
 26.—Alexander sonne of Alexander Smith of Stock.  
 30.—Anne daughter of Henry Brombell of Haughton.

## MARRIED.

- 27.—John Jackson and Anne Shyrte.

## BURIED.

- 9.—Oulde Henry Wyld of Denton.  
 19.—Richard sonne of Lawrence fallowes of Bramhall.  
 22.—The wyfe of John Robynson of Brynnington.  
 29.—Jane daughter of John Robynson of Brynnington.

## FEBRUARY, 1594.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Robte sonne of Raphe Johnson of Stock.  
 7.—Katherine daughter of Raphe Low of Denton.  
 9.—Raphe sonne of Hugh Kennion of the parish of Manchester.  
 9.—Sara daughter of James flearne of Stock.  
 14.—Willm sonne of Raphe Bayley of the Cringlebrook.  
 16.—Rebecca daughter of Peter Hey of Stock.  
 16.—James sonne of Thomas Brook of Stock.  
 21.—Margret daughter of Robte Marsland of Stock.  
 23.—Elizabeth daughter of Charles Sydebotham of Werneth.  
 23.—Margret daughter of Ellis Andcroft of Redich.

## MARRIED.

- 19.—Raffe Taylor and Em Hanley.

## BURIED.

- 4.—Thomas Collier of the Streethouse lane.  
 20.—Robte Higham of Bredbury.  
 21.—Tho Rydgeway of Stock had a chyld bur.  
 24.—The wyfe of Robte Marsland of Stock.

MARCH, 1594.

BAPTISED.

- 2.—Joseph sonne of John Boland of Stock.
- 2.—Richard sonne of Henry Walker of Hyde.
- 7.—Anne daughter of George Newton of the Moore-syde.
- 14.—Roger Booth of Bradbury had a chyld baptised.
- 14.—Dorothy daughter of Ranulphe Hankinson of Stock.
- 21.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Oldham of Brynnington.
- 23.—Susanna daughter of Myles Herod of Stock.
- 23.—John sonne of George Hall of Stock.
- 23.—Anne daughter of John Hobson of Levensam.

MARRIED.

- 2.—Willm Cooke and Elizabeth Choriton.
- 2.—Edward Taylor and Ales Bradbury.

BURIED.

- 2.—Thomas Low of Denton.
- 6.—Ould Roger Daniell of the Wyndlehurst.
- 6.—A chyld of John Gees of the foxholes.
- 15.—Ales Higginbotham of Marple.

MARCH, 1595.

BURIED.

- 25.—The wyfe of Richard Chatterton of the Street-house lane.
- 29.—Anne Rachdale of Bradbury.

APRILL, 1595.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—John sonne of James Leighe of Torkinton.
- 4.—John sonne of Olyver Bowerhouse of Heaton.
- 4.—Ellen and Ales daughters of John Collier of Heaton.
- 6.—Jane daughter of John Hulme of the Shaw.
- 11.—Anne daughter of James Smyth of the Moor-syde.
- 11.—Charles sonne of Willm Sydebothom of Romiley.
- 11.—Elizabeth daughter of John Collier of Bradbury.
- 13.—Willm sonne of John Oldham of Redich.
- 13.—Elizabeth daughter of Ambrose Robinson of Stock.
- 21.—Elizabeth daughter of Robte Hulme of Levensam.
- 21.—ANNE DAUGHTER OF EDWARD TORKINTON OF TORKINTON GENT WAS BAPTISED THE 21TH.
- 27.—Grace daughter of John Boeth of Redich.

BURIED.

- 4.—Nicholas sonne of John Brown of Levensam.
- 12.—George Barlow of Haughton.
- 14.—Jane Dodge of Stock.
- 15.—Willm Hanley of Hawarden wood.
- 15.—Ales fallowes of Bramhall.
- 15.—John Collier of Hyde Mylne.

MAY, 1595.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—Willm sonne of Alexander Mosse of Stock.
- 10.—Susanna daughter of Henry Hyde of Denton.
- 22.—Elizabeth daughter of Reiginolde Leighe of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 10.—Robte Hudson and Katherine Dale.
- 11.—Richard Smith and Anne Lingard.
- 13.—Robte Phillips and Elizabeth Henshaw.

BURIED.

- 3.—Oulde fallowes wyfe of the Churchgate.
- 3.—A chyld of Robte Hulmes of the blacklath in Lancashire.
- 4.—Elizabeth Tatton of Stock.
- 6.—Cycely Sharshaw of Torkinton.
- 23.—Anne Harrison of Werneth.
- 23.—Rondull Wood of the Churchgate in Stock.
- 26.—Agnes Worth of Crookiley.
- 27.—Thomas Bennetson of Bradbury greene.
- 29.—Old Newtons wyf of Empehawgate.
- 29.—The wyfe of Willm Hanley of the Cleggyate.

JUNE, 1595.

BAPTISED.

- 6.—Reiginolde Gee of Hyde had a chyld baptized.
- 8.—Robte sonne of Robte Boardman of Rediche.
- 8.—Richard sonne of John Hyllary of Stock *cli*.
- 9.—Christerson of Marple had a chyld baptized.
- 20.—Isabell and Ellen daughters of George Bowerhouse of Heaton *als* Mosse.
- 24.—Prudentia daughter of John Bakester of Brynnington.
- 26.—Ellen daughter of Willm Bowker of Bramhall.
- 29.—John sonne of John Cartwright of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 4.—Henry Ashton and Elizabeth Barsley.
- 13.—Raffe Knowles and Elizabeth Burges.
- 15.—Thomas Dauys and Ellen Leighe.
- 20.—Raphe Kennion and Ales Heald.

BURIED.

- 25.—Alex sonne of Willm Nicholson of the Woodhall.
- 30.—The wyfe of John Thorniley of Ludworth.

JULY, 1595.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—Margery daughter of Robte Harryson of Heaton Norres.
- 4.—Hugh sonne of Roger Daniell of Marple.
- 6.—George sonne of Raphe Dickson of Stock.
- 20.—Isabell daughter of Olyver Dodge of Stock.
- 25.—Elizabeth and Ellen daughters of John Mosse *als* Bowerhouse of the churchyard syde.
- 27.—EDWARD THE SONNE OF WILLIAM DAUENPORT OF THE GOIT GENT WAS BAPTISED THE 27TH.
- 27.—Ales daughter of John Burges of Stock.

Didsbury.

E. W. BULKLEY.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1886.

## Notes.

BULLOCK SMITHY.

In a previous issue (*ante* 241) of CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES we gave a transcript of the lease dated May 1, 1560, granted by "John Torkenton of Torkenton, gentleman," to "Richard Bullocke, blacke Smythe, of Torkenton," for the transfer of a house, smithy, and land at Torkington. We may fairly surmise that from that date—1560—and from that event the name of Bullock Smithy originated, and as such it was generally known down to 1836, although the alternative name of Hazel Grove, or rather, Hesselgreave, was known fully a hundred years before the last-named date. So far back as 1724, Hermann Moll, the geographer, published in London an atlas in which the village is described as Hesselgrave.

It is said that Hazel Grove was adopted in consequence of an objection by a freshly-appointed agent or steward of the then Lord Vernon. This agent was Mr Thomas Ashworth, who, having married a daughter of Mr Thomas Christy, of the celebrated hating firm of Stockport, went to reside at Poynton, the nearest post to which was Bullock Smithy, and naturally feeling a repugnance that his letters, mostly from persons of high status, should be dated and addressed in that unphonious name, agitated for a change, eventually succeeding in inducing the present name to be adopted. There are a few yet living, however, who remember it as Bullock Smithy, and who have a vivid recollection of the famous races that were annually held there.

It is fifty years ago this 25th of September since the name was changed to Hazel Grove, and in view of the jubilee that is to be held there in commemoration of the event we have pleasure in placing before our readers an account of the proceedings on that occasion. To those who can read between the lines, as well as to antiquarians, it furnishes an interesting study of the progress made during the past half century.

## REVIVAL &amp; PROCLAMATION OF HAZEL GROVE.

THE parts of the several Townships of BOSDEN, of TORKINGTON, NORBURY, and BRAMALL, lying on each side of the Turnpike Road leading from Stockport Moor to Poynton, having been called by the improper name of BULLOCKSMITHY, the Inhabitants of the village held a public meeting, at the Red Lion Inn, in Norbury, on the 26th day of August, for the purpose of REVIVING the proper name, "HAZEL GROVE."

The Committee appointed to manage the ceremony then proposed a PROCESSION on the 26th September instant, to PROCLAIM and restore to the village its proper name, "HAZEL GROVE," and do hereby give notice that a procession of the Gentry, Clergy, Tradesmen, Children of the Schools, and all the Societies in the neighbourhood will take place on the above day at 11 o'clock, A.M. precisely.

A DINNER will be provided at the house of Mr Wood, the *Red Lion Inn*; and any Gentlemen desirous of favouring the Committee with their company, are requested to take Tickets at the Bar of the above Inn, on or before the 23rd instant.

Tickets for Dinner, including Wine, 7s. 6d.

By Order,

Hazel Grove, Sep. 9, 1836.

H. THATCHER

## ANNIHILATION OF THE NAME OF BULLOCK SMITHY, AND REVIVAL OF THAT OF HAZEL GROVE.

Monday last was the day on which this appointed ceremony was gone through, and the inhabitants of the village were highly favoured with fine weather. Indeed, everything tended to give interest and effect to the business of the day. The houses of many of the inhabitants were adorned with flags, flowers, evergreens, &c., at an early hour, and the villagers, old and young, were jocund, happy, and gay, if we may take the countenance to be the index of the mind. Long life to Hazel Grove say we; may its nuts prosper, and old father Time cherish them; and when fully ripe may the kernels be found prepared to endure the harvest of eternity. Too much credit cannot be given to the Managing Committee appointed to conduct the ceremony—Messrs Gaskell, Thomas and David Moseley, Heys, Poole, Ainsworth, Wharmby, and Sutcliffe, assisted by the Secretaries, Messrs Thatcher and Clubb. The procession was formed by Mr Gaskell and Mr David Moseley, who have been indefatigable in their exertions since the revival of the name was agreed upon, and that was on the 29th of August last. A minute Book was provided and all the proceedings duly entered, which will be deposited in the archives of Hazel Grove. Neat medals have been cast for the occasion, bearing the following inscription. On the side in a circle—"In commemoration of the ancient name of Hazel Grove," and in the centre—"Celebrating the revival, Sept. 26, 1836." On the dexter side was the armorial bearing of the village surrounded by a laurel-leaved garland.

Mr Bottoms, of the Crown Inn, Stockport Gate Moor, set an example to the innkeepers worthy of imitation. Feeling convinced that nothing was

likely to impress stubborn facts on the mind as something substantial, he provided for the occasion a loaf which would have served Goliath of Gath a long time to gormandise upon. It measured seven feet high and two feet wide, and contained 295lbs of flour, baked by John Stubbs, of the Chestergate, in this town. To this was added an excellent Cheshire cheese weighing 1 cwt. and a 36-gallon barrel of sparkling Sir John Bar'eycorn, the whole of which was distributed to the members of the Bramall and Stockport Moor Friendly Societies.

In the afternoon the procession moved up the village in the following order:—Constables—Two of the oldest inhabitants on horseback, bearing shields on which were emblazoned the arms of the village in rouge and gold, supported by two pages—Band of Music—Wm. Faulkner, the beadle of Stockport, in his manorial uniform, on horseback, wearing a medal, and decorated with blue and pink ribbons—Gentlemen four-a-breast—Blacksmiths carrying tools and emblems of their trade—Church Sunday Scholars with blue rosettes and medals—(the girls looked remarkably neat, being dressed in caps with blue ribbons)—Wesleyan Sunday Scholars, about 500. The porter with a blue cloak and staff, followed by the Committee and Visitors, with white wands.—Two adult scholars carried a large frame bearing "Hazel Grove Wesleyan Sunday School for children and adults of all denominations;" a second, "Suffer little children to come unto Me," borne by two girls; a third, in a black frame with four rosettes in each corner, "This Institution was established about the year 1784 by the late Henry Marsland, Esq., of this village, father of the late Peter Marsland, Esq., magistrate of Stockport;" a fourth, "Train up a child in the way he should go," carried by two boys; a fifth, "Feed my lambs," borne by a boy, (the whole of the inscriptions, &c., were painted by the teachers and scholars)—1 dependent Sunday Scholars—Methodist Association Sunday Scholars—Red Lion Male Sick Society, each member wearing a cluster of hazel nuts on the breast of his coat—Modern Druids, No. 73—Stockport Great Moor Friendly Society—Bramall Sick Society—United Odd Fellows, No. 177; two Tylers, and a boy on horseback with a bow, arrow, and quiver—Independent Odd Fellows, No 401, and Band of Music—Shepherds' Lodge—Ancient Foresters—Poynton and Worth Friendly Society and Band of Music, &c.

Mr Mossley's workmen, numbering near 120, also joined the procession, that day being also appointed for the rearing of the new cotton mill erected there by that enterprising gentleman.

The Proclamation was then made by the beadle, W Faulkner, in eight different places within the village. This he severally announced by the sound of his trumpet, and the National Anthem was played after each proclamation, which was as follows:—

"Oh yes, oh yes, oh yes! Whereas we the inhabitants of the village have agreed to revive its ancient and original name of 'Hazel Grove,' I do, therefore, hereby proclaim and declare that the village shall be called and known by the name of Hazel Grove as heretofore and for ever. God save the King; and the inhabitants of Hazel Grove."

At onetime it was computed that there were between five and six thousand persons present, three of whom were in the procession, 700 coming from Poynton and that neighbourhood. Each scholars and teacher was presented with a ribbon and medal and a bun, at the expense of the Committee of Management, along with a small book given by Thomas Ashworth, Esq. After the procession, the scholars were taken to their respective schools, where they were regaled—the Church School with tea, &c., and the Wesleyans with ale, &c.

On Tuesday the different female societies took tea at the Red Lion, the Grapes, Three Tuns, and the Crown.

#### THE DINNER.

At four o'clock, a large party of gentlemen dined together at the Red Lion Inn. Mr DANIEL SHAW was called to the Chair, and Mr HEYS officiated as Vice-President. The dinner was a very excellent one; it elicited universal expressions of approbation; and was exceedingly creditable to the worthy hostess, Mrs Wood. The dessert was ample and the wines good. The Poynton band played several select airs during dinner, and added much to the spirit and enjoyment of the evening.

The cloth having been drawn, "The King," with three-times-three cheers, was proposed by the Chairman. This was succeeded by "The Queen, so well known as the benefactress of all the charitable Institutions of this country,"—"The Princess Victoria, the Presumptive Heiress of the Throne of these realms, and the rest of the Royal Family."

In introducing the next toast, the President observed that it was one connected with the occasion which they had that evening met to celebrate. He trusted, as the village had now assumed a new name, that they would likewise assume a new and a better character, hoping that they would live long to see it. He then gave "Prosperity to the Village of Hazel Grove." Received with three-times-three cheers.

The Chairman said they must not forget the friends of the village who reside in the neighbourhood. The liberality of the Vernon family was proverbial, and most particularly to the inhabitants of Hazel Grove; for had it not been for them the village would not have been honoured with a Church, towards the erection of which that family had given £500. It

would be remembered that when trade was in a very bad state, application was made to Lady Vernon, who promptly found employment for the inhabitants of this village, when no employment could be found elsewhere. "The Dowager Lady, and Lord and Lady Vernon, long life to them."

The President proposed the health of a gentleman, a considerable proprietor of property in that district, and a near resident. He was the senior Magistrate of the Stockport Bench, having for a space of 25 years devoted his valuable services for the benefit of this neighbourhood, and the public at large. "Sir Salisbury Humphreys, K.C.B."

In introducing the next toast, "Thomas Legh, Esq., of Lyme," the Chairman said he regretted that that gentleman was not so much in the neighbourhood as he could wish. He had nevertheless been extremely liberal to those around him, and had presented the village of Norbury with the plot of land on which the Church was erected.

This was succeeded by "The health of Peter Legh, Esq., of Booths, the Lord of the Manor of Torkington," who, with unostentatious benevolence, had given £300 towards the building of Norbury Church.

Mr David Moseley having being called upon for a song, gave the following appropriate one, written expressly for the occasion:—

As Lords and their Squires keep changing their name,  
Why, we rustic folks, will just do the same;  
Their halls' names they alter, to suit the mind,  
We'll just do the same, and answer in kind.

So long life to the Hazle;  
Long life to the Hazle;  
Long life to the Hazle;  
And ne'er a deaf nut.

Antiquarians boast, the place it is old,  
Its people's industry is as fine gold;  
We're rising in fortune, in fame as well,  
This, in history's page, will sound very well.

So long life to the Hazle, &c.

Our beautiful damsels are a great boast,  
The empire all know and pledge them a toast.  
As maidens or mothers may they ever be  
Prolific in sons, so gen'rous and free.

So long life to the Hazle, &c.

Then long life to our patrons, let's stoutly sing,  
May life pass with them on sweet downy wing,  
The Lady of Poynton, may she ever be  
Supported by hearts so generous and free.

So long life to the Hazle, &c.

May Poynton's agent continue the same,  
He'll add to his own and her Ladyship's fame:  
Respected he'll be by every one,  
And mourn'd when from hence he's eternally gone.

So long life to the Hazle, &c.

Having sung of the living, we'll sing of the dead,  
For Bullock the Smith has laid down his head;

His fire's extinguished, his bellows worn down,  
With Hazle and nuts his head we will crown.

So long life to the Hazle, &c.

The faces I see around me to-night,  
Fill me with mirth, with genuine delight;  
And may this good meeting not be the last,  
If it is it will look like a general fast.

So long life to the Hazle, &c.

The song was received with unbounded applause.

The Chairman proposed "The healths of the Members for the county." Their representatives in Parliament, said the Chairman, took different views upon different subjects; but he believed they all did their best.

The President thought the company would agree with him in expressing their gratification and satisfaction at the conduct of the Sunday School Scholars during the ceremony of that day. It was a proof that the village had claims to that of a higher and more respectable character than had hitherto been bestowed upon it. Nothing could exceed the order and peaceable demeanour of the whole of the procession. In conclusion he proposed "The Superintendants, Teachers, and Visitors of the Sunday School Scholars."

Mr John Crowther proposed "The health of Sir John Thomas Stanley, Bart.," late Chairman of the Knutsford Quarter Sessions, a gentleman who was much respected in the county of Chester.

Mr Baines joined with the Chairman in expressing his feelings of admiration at the interesting appearance of the Sunday Scholars on that day. It was gratifying, moreover, to see men from 20 to 60, all desirous to promote good order and decency of those under their charge; it had made a pleasing impression upon his mind, nor could it fail seriously to interest all who beheld it.

The Chairman rose to propose the healths of a class of persons whose objects well merited the applause of every man, high or low, rich or poor, since, by enrolling themselves into Sick Societies, called Sacred Orders, they depended upon each other for relief in the time of need, rather than encroach upon the funds of the parishes. It had given him great pleasure to witness the assemblage of such numbers without a serious accident, or any circumstance calculated to dampen feelings of any one. Under such a short notice, it was remarkable what a little regulation was necessary. "The industrious classes of the neighbourhood, and success to their several Societies."

Mr Baines, in introducing himself so early a second time, said he feared he might be deemed an intruder, but the appropriate manner in which the Chairman premised the toasts, rendered it almost impossible that he could remain silent. Taking them as a whole, the industrious classes formed by far the most important portion of the community of England, and more so

ticular in the district in which we live. We live by trade; and that day they had had amongst them both the beginner and the finisher of all that made this nation what she was. Our manufactures, thanks to mechanical science, were chiefly carried on by steam, the source of power. Then there was the engine which turned the whole. He might say then, that as far as the trade of England was concerned, they had had the originator and the finisher with them in their procession.

The Chairman observed that although the village had obtained a bad name, still if they would compare it with the districts around them, there was less crime committed there than in any other village of a similar population; indeed, there had not been a case of felony in Hazel Grove, with one exception, committed in seven years; so that it could not be said that, with a bad name, had been associated criminal conduct. Morality was progressing in the right path, and he trusted it would continue to do so. Although the village was well suited for all the conveniences requisite in conducting cotton factories, being near to coal and water, it had by a strange oversight been overlooked by the great capitalists of the day. A short time back, however, the foundation of a large manufactory was laid close to the village, by a gentleman of Hazel Grove, who thus expending a handsome fortune, not so much for the advantage of himself or his family, as his "native neighbourhood" as he termed it. He hoped his endeavours would be crowned with success, and prove a benefit to himself and his "native neighbourhood." He then proposed the health of "Mr Thomas Robert Moseley, and may his enterprising conduct be a blessing to himself and his country."

Mr Clarke, of Macclesfield, said that the silk weavers and about Hazel Grove, were the best workmen for the description of goods (Persians) that could be found; and if the landlords would lower their rents, nothing could surpass the welfare and prosperity of the creative manufacturers of Hazel Grove.

Mr John Buxton confessed that he felt somewhat prised at being that day opposed when he observed at the change was to be for an improvement; but thought that the orderly and good conduct maintained on the present occasion was a sufficient proof that the change would be as he had anticipated. Not in Manchester was the good order exceeded. It is very true that Bullocksmithy was commonly mentioned implying an illiterate and disreputable place; proof of this he stated that passing down Bridge-street, Manchester, a short time ago, he entered a bookseller's shop, where there was a sale by public auction. The auctioneer put up a particular volume, the first offer being considered to be so low, he observed, that he always thought Manchester was a fine community; and he should not have been surprised at the sum just announced had it taken place

in Chowbent or Bullocksmithy, where they did not know the difference between a book and a brick. (Laughter.) Now, he thought the Manchester folks were mistaken on this point; and he trusted that the spread of education would make Hazel Grove a reading village likewise. That "knowledge is power" was a proverb admitted on all hands. Knowledge was also the foundation of ingenuity, which, once developed, no man could limit. Look at the seaports—there you see the floating barque ploughing fearlessly the mighty deep. Turn your attention to the effects of steam—the mighty engine in factories, the mover of the intricate machinery—and the railway, where this agent flies along the roads with amazing velocity. See also the balloon towering aloft and sailing among the clouds. Then why should Bullocksmithy or Hazel Grove be behind these inventions of utility? It was some time back notorious that a Bullocksmithy man was invariably to be known by his having a three-inch pipe in his mouth and a bull-dog by his side; but he did hope that when the village changed its name that these bull-dog fighters would also reform themselves. In conclusion Mr Buxton called upon those persons of influence in the neighbourhood to extend a liberal hand in promoting the general welfare of the working classes in the village.

Hazel Grove (said the Chairman) was as a child to its parents—the great manufacturing town of Stockport, in whose prosperity it partook. "Success to the Town and Trade of Stockport," three times three and one cheer more.

Mr James Swindells, as an inhabitant of Stockport, returned thanks; and proposed the Chairman's health, whose conduct that day had been so much in unison with his well-known excellent character. "Mr Daniel Shaw" three times three.

Mr Shaw, in responding, confessed that not being a native of the village, he had stepped out of his jurisdiction in presiding over that meeting; but, having invariably received kindnesses from the village, and having a disposition to serve the neighbourhood as far as his influence extended, he had with feelings of that description consented to put himself, rather intrusively, in the chair. At a distance, the present occasion might be viewed as a piece of folly, but if the changing the name had the effect of altering the character of the villagers of Hazel Grove from bad to good; and if good, to better still, he thought it would be anything but folly. He expressed his delight at the flattering manner with which the day had passed over, and thanked the company for the honour done him.

The Chairman next proposed "the healths of the Messrs Marland, the Representatives in Parliament for the borough of Stockport."—The families of both had sprung from the neighbourhood of Hazel Grove,

and he thought that the town of Stockport was under considerable obligations to Hazel Grove and its neighbourhood, and he did not doubt that the district would continue to be the means of producing men equally useful to the public.

Mr Simpson, of Alderley, proposed the health of the Vice President, Mr Heys.

Mr Heys, in acknowledging the compliment, said, he never enjoyed himself so much as he had done that day, and the more so since so many of his friends had participated in the object of the day. In the management there had been a little rubbing in the committee, but like the waves on the sea shore the rougher material had been worn smooth. Mr Heys then entered upon some observations in favour of the formation of an Infant School in the village—in the course of which the speaker particularly alluded to the excellence of the character of Mr Ashworth, who was favourable to the scheme; in fact, by a proper representation of the subject to the Vernon family, he had every confidence of the success of the undertaking. Mr Heys, after some further remarks, said he was willing to come forward and to give any service that might benefit the neighbourhood.

Mr Simpson proposed "the health of Mr Peter Gaskell; and may he live long and happily in the village of Hazel Grove."—Three times three.

Mr Gaskell acknowledged the compliment. He had been called upon to take an active part in the proceedings of that day, but whether his exertions had given satisfaction or not he could not tell; he had done his best. He concluded by expressing his willingness to do his utmost on any occasion which had for its object the public good.

The Chairman, in proposing the next toast, alluded to the difficulty the Committee of Management had had to accommodate the dispute of precedence among the different Friendly Societies. The Ancient Foresters said they had an undisputed right to walk first, because their Society had originated with Adam, who was the primitive free ranger! whilst the Shepherds said theirs was the oldest, because Adam was their foundation, he being the first Shepherd. Then there was the Odd Fellows, who contended that their Society was unquestionably the most ancient, as it likewise sprang from Adam, who was the first odd fellow that ever existed.—(Laughter.) Such was the great and energetic duty of this body of gentlemen. On the health of the Secretaries being given,—

Mr Clubb returned thanks on behalf of himself and his coadjutor, Mr Thatcher.

Mr Swindells proposed the health of Mr Thomas Moseley, whom he had known for upwards of 60 years as a valuable inhabitant of that village; to which Mr Moseley responded most appropriately. He had resided amongst them between 60 and 70 years; and

hoped for better times. They would never find him reluctant in affording pecuniary assistance to those Institutions which were calculated to do good to the lower classes and the village of Hazel Grove at large. He was prepared to continue in the path he had laid out for himself as long as he lived, or until he saw sufficient reason to alter that determination.

A number of other toasts and sentiments were drunk in succession, and the company continued, we understand, their festive orgies until a late hour.

EDITOR.

#### THE ENGLISH IN NORTH WALES.

Allusion has been made in your notes already to a paper read by Mr H. Taylor at Chester, upon the honours conferred on Englishmen by Edward the First on his conquest of Wales. The subject has been more fully discussed since by other writers, but we are still left in the dark upon many points which are very full of interest to the students of our local histories. The ancient Britons of course claim to have held at one time the whole of Wales, and some English lands also upon the borders of Cheshire, Salop, and Herefordshire; and, indeed, the old Cambrian language is still spoken to some extent by the inhabitants of portions of these English shires.

It cannot, however, be denied that when Offa, king of Mercia, constructed his celebrated dyke, to separate his own people from the Welsh, he included within his own kingdom a considerable part of Denbighshire and of Flintshire. He died in the year 796, and it is admitted by most writers that the lands lying to the east of the Dyke, between Basingwerk and Chester remained in Mercian hands till 880, when Anarawd, the eldest son of Roderick the Great, became sovereign of North Wales. He permitted Hobart, a Cumbric Briton, and his followers, to gain a settlement in his kingdom, between Conway and Chester, "provided they could dispossess the Saxons of the same;" and we are to credit the Welsh historians, the Mercians were driven out of the country by them some time before the death of Anarawd in the year 913, and Hawarden, with its surroundings, once more became mentioned as a part of the Dominion of Wales.

Anarawd was succeeded by his son, Edwal Fod, but he and his brother Ellis were slain in battle in or about the year 939, and as their children were too young to assume the sovereign authority at that time, Edwal Dda, Prince of South Wales, was chosen governor of the northern part of the principality. He is renowned as the great Welsh law-giver, and his descendants the ap Howells, have become famous in the genealogical and heraldic records of North Wales. The Mostyns, Mostyns, probably were the chiefs of this noble house. Edwal Dda appointed his trusted follower Syr Howel (ancestor of the English Cecils) to be governor of Hawarden Castle, who by his marriage with the daughter of

Trawst, daughter of Elis ap Anarawd, had four sons, Systyllt, Conan, Gruffyd, and Blethyn; and their grandson, Llywelyn ap Systyllt, is mentioned as having claimed North Wales in the year 1015 as his own, and reigned over it until 1023, when he was slain, leaving an only son, Gruffydd, a minor, who in 1037 succeeded to the kingdom. He was murdered in the year 1064, and we may assume, therefore, that as between the days of Anarawd and the year of Gruffydd's death the Welsh had been able to hold their own upon the borders of Cheshire and of Shropshire. I myself think they did so down to 1090, when William the Conqueror granted two Welsh lordships, "together with all the lands lying upon the seashore from Chester to Conway," to Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, who thereupon possessed himself of the same, and then held them by the sword, as part of his Palatinata.

Robert de Montalt is mentioned in Cheshire histories as one of the subordinate Barons created by Hugh Lupus, and he evidently lorded it over both Hawarden and Mold. Here then we have distinct evidence of a powerful English settlement in Flintshire, and we know that Robert de Montalt's successors held their own there until 1145, when "Owen Gwynedd razed to the ground the Castle of Mold," but he certainly did not crush out the English as he had proposed doing, for in 1149 Henry the Second "encamped his army on the Saltney Marsh, under the Castle of Hawarden." It would be tedious to follow the story of the English occupants of Hawarden from that time until David, brother of Prince Llewellyn, rebelled against his sovereign, and was created Earl of Derby by Edward the First; or, to follow the fortunes of the Montalts to the last of the race who died without issue in the early part of the fourteenth century, and so enabled the Castle and Manor of Hawarden to pass to Queen Isabella, with remainder to John of Eltham, the king's brother; or, upon the history of the exchange of lands, &c., between them, and William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, who thereupon became lord of the Castle and the Manor.

But we may pause to remark upon the loose way in which "records" are put together with a view of supporting some theory which is very dear to local historians. A writer of no mean eminence asserts that Thomas de Salebury, who in 1445 obtained "a charter of certain lands and tenements at Hawarden, from Edmund de Gray, Lord of Ruthin," was a descendant of William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, and that he had in that way a claim to some part of this inheritance. This eminent man—for he was such—was none other than the eldest son of Henry Salisbury of Lleweli, and tenth in descent from Adam de Salisbury, Captain of the garrison of Denbigh in Henry the Second's time, and had no sort of connexion with de Montacute's, nor with Hawarden itself, except

through his great, great grandfather, Harri Dda, who had married Nest, daughter of Cynrie Sais ap Ithel Vychan of Llys Edwyn, not far from Hawarden, and through her, he, and the ap Howells had derived in common from Howel Dda. The same writer tells us upon the authority of Symons that his son Sir Thomas Salisbury died in 1505, and that a memorial window was put up in his honour at Llanrhainder in 1506, on which was painted "or a lion rampant between three crescents argent, with *Laus Deus* about in scrolls; a male effigy in armour, and having a servant with three arms upon the heart and sleeves. Over the whole a scroll bearing the inscriptions, *Jesu digne on us sinners have mercy, Thomas Salisbury!!*" Constance Salisbury, daughter of the first named Thomas, named Piers Stanley of Ewloe, and Elizabeth Salisbury another daughter married Richard ap Howell, and so tied the knots between their respective descendants of Howel-Dda.

The English story, however, is continued unbroken as it seems to me from William de Montacute's time to the year 1443, when Sir Thomas Stanley acquired the Hawarden possessions under a grant from Henry the Sixth; and the very last trace I can find of even a pretence of Welsh authority there is in 1364, when Llywelyn, Prince of Wales, met Simor de Montfort at Hawarden Castle, and then entered into a contract with him to marry his daughter, Eleanor de Montfort, which he did in 1277, and thereby, became ancestor to Owen Glendower, through their daughter Catherine, who married Philip ap Ivor, Lord of Iscoed, in Cardiganshire. The links in the chain of English occupation of this part of Flintshire would appear, therefore, to have remained perfect between the year 1090 and 1494, when Henry the Seventh visited Hawarden Castle, and I am persuaded that neither Owen Gwynedd nor Llywelyn, the last Prince of Wales, ever succeeded to retain power there for any length of time, so that the "favours" bestowed upon his followers by Edward the First must have been confined to that part of North Wales west of Hawarden in Flintshire, and south of it in Denbighshire. Edwyn, the founder of the sixth noble tribe of Wales, was designated Prince of Engelfield, and was great-grandson of Howel Dda; he dwelt at Llys Llan Eurgain, or, as the English call it, "the Palace of Northrop." Owen Glendower and Owen Tudor derived from him, so did Cynrie Sais, already alluded to, and the ap Howells of Ewloe, and of Mostyn. The Flintshire descendants of Edwyn were undoubtedly Welsh in the strictest sense they were powerful, and influential; and yet I imagine they were always loyal to the English interests as represented by Edward the First. I cannot imagine how it could be otherwise, when we come to examine the few facts which can be referred to bearing upon that sovereign's

march from Chester to Flint, and thence to Rhuddlan, for if they had been hostile to him he could not have proceeded on his way unopposed. If it be true that his queen rested at Caergwile on her way to Rhuddlan Castle the conclusion I have arrived at is still more remarkable, for we have to assume that the English were in possession of Holt, Caergwile, Mold, Disseth, and Rhuddlan Castles, on the upper side of the county, and of Hawarden and Basingwerk on the lower one, the power of Llywelyn therefore being elsewhere. I certainly cannot find that any of the chief men in Flintshire had accompanied him to Snowdonia, so that I conclude—not unfairly I trust—that the Flintonians, both English and Welsh, favoured Edward, rather than the brave and unhappy Welsh prince, who had to fly for safety to the mountains of his native land. They must have seen how certainly the Earls of Chester had acquired power over a considerable portion of the county, and, without harbouring in their hearts a spirit of rebellion against their own prince, it is more than probable that they entertained the conviction that the interests of their countrymen would be best served by an union with England than by the maintenance of their own national policy. When at length Edward had gained his end, and the statutes of Rhuddlan had been adopted as law, the union of the two nations followed, and it is curious to notice that even Owen Glendower took up arms in defence of the English sovereign, Richard, and not against English rule. The lesson we have to learn may not be very agreeable to many of us, but the time has come when we can afford to accept facts, and all the facts applicable to the English occupation of

North Wales seem to show that the story of it has to be re-written in many serious particulars. It may be shown from some unpublished records that the Cambrian rehearsal of it is more to be depended upon than the English one, and that the bards are more worthy of belief than are the historians, but this remains to be done.

ANTHONY ASQUITH.

## Queries.

**Stockport Clockmaker.**—Does any reader know anything of an old English clockmaker named Richard Corless? I saw one of his clocks recently at Manchester. It was of very curious construction, and showed fine workmanship. It bore the name "Richard Corless, Stockport," but had no date. The owners, however, stated that they believed it was made about the middle of the seventeenth century.

Leeds.

E. STANSFIELD.

**THE STOCKPORT PARISH CHURCH PLATE.**—At page 140 of CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES, in an account of the visit of the members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society in May, 1886, it is stated that the communion service is a very ancient one, some portions dating back to 1581. If some correspondent could furnish particulars of the several pieces, together with the dates and hall marks, he would earn the gratitude of many antiquarians besides.

CAMERO-BERTON.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

Mr John Gudgeon did not confine his sphere of usefulness to the Mechanics' Institute alone. For a number of years he was the superintendent of the Lancashire-hill Sunday School. This was one of a number of branch schools which sprung from their parent, the Stockport Sunday School. These branches, which were very similar in construction, fairly encircled our town, and are to be met with in every direction, and they were built within a few years of each other, that is from the year 1819 to the year 1825.

We have the Heaviley Sunday School in the south of Stockport; at the extreme end of the town. The

Edgeley Sunday School, built by the Wesleyans, is at the south-west of, and Brinkley Sunday School to the west of the town. Newbridge-lane Sunday School, built by the Wesleyans, is at the extreme east of the borough. Wharfe the Portwood Sunday School, also built by the Wesleyans, at the then-outskirts of the town in the east, Heaton-lane Sunday School at the then northern edge of the town. There is a Sunday school at Cleave Hill, and another at Heaton Messy, very similar in appearance to the other schools named.

These schools answered two purposes. The bottom storeys consisted of a number of dwellings, the rents of which was a great support to the maintenance of the schools erected over them. Before the erection of the Lancashire-hill Sunday School, and a many years after, the Sabbath in that locality

was observed more as a holiday than as a holy day. In the year 1826, when with my parents I first came to reside in this locality, it was no uncommon thing to see young men assembled together on the Sabbath morning at the street corners and lane ends playing at pitch and toss, or amusing themselves by abetting and witnessing two dogs trying to worry each other. Another party, a little distance off, would be enjoying themselves by watching a cock fight. It was to put a stop to these barbarous customs and to instruct the youth in the right way that Sunday schools were first instituted. These institutions have done, and are still doing, their duty well, and they have helped to raise England from a semi-barbarous state to the most enlightened nation in the world.

Mr Gudgeon was the superintendent of this Lancashire-hill Sunday School (I have been told) about eleven years. During that time he gained for himself the good name and respect of all the members, excepting a few rude boys. One Sunday afternoon Mr Gudgeon was delivering an address to the scholars. Underneath the rostrum from which he was speaking sat two lads, who were amusing themselves during Mr Gudgeon's address in enlivening their fellows by the free use of pins, which at times produced a shriek of pain. This was a sore annoyance to Mr Gudgeon, who bore it very patiently for some time. At last he abruptly left off speaking, walked down the steps of the pulpit as noiselessly as possible, and caught the lads red-handed in their mischief. He gave their ears a sound boxing, to the delight of the whole teachers and scholars assembled. He afterwards ascended the pulpit again and returned his address with perfect coolness, as if nothing had happened.

After the death of Mr Joseph Littlewood, who I have named in a previous paper, Mr Gudgeon became a partner with Mr Littlewood's two sons and nephew of the late Mr William Higson in working the mill. From being a weaver's tenter he, by his own industry and tact, became to be the principal. John Gudgeon was cut off in the midst of his labours, and in what we might term the pride of life. He died January 27th, 1859, in the 50th year of his age. Mary, his wife, died on April the 8th, 1869, aged 75 years. They both repose in the east side of the Christ Church burial ground. A monument, erected by his fellow-workers at the Mechanics' Institute, marks his last resting place. This monument consists of a low obelisk supporting a broken column, typifying that his life was cut short in the midst of its usefulness. On one side of

the monument is recorded his long connection with the Mechanics' Institution and the fact of his being the secretary of that institution for 18 years. Another side gives the date of his death and that of his wife.

In my remarks in a former paper on Mr Joseph Littlewood, the fellow-worker with Mr Gudgeon, I committed an error which I wish to rectify. I therefore think my best plan will be to re-write, as briefly as I can, my recollections of the once popular family on Lancashire-hill. In the year 1826, when I first entered Mr Higson's mill as a bobbiner, Mr Joseph Littlewood was the manager. Like Mr Gudgeon, he sprang from the lower ranks. I mean by this that he was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth. At that time (1826) I thought he got his living very easily. I have nothing much to say against him save that on several occasions I felt his boot too near my person. When I was again employed at this mill as a throstle doffer Mr Littlewood was still the manager. I again thought that he earned his living easily. The secret was that he was master of his work, and the overlookers knew it and obeyed him. He resided and brought up his family in the premises lately occupied by the Conservative Club on the Old-road. His family consisted of two sons and three daughters. Sarah, the wife of Joseph Littlewood, died on the 11th of August, 1847, aged 51 years. Mr Littlewood died on the 11th of August, 1850, aged 53 years. They are both interred in the Cheadle Churchyard. After his father's death, James Littlewood emigrated to the United States. He gained for himself a good name in his adopted country. He died on May 27th, 1886, at Wakefield, Clay Co., Kansas. Thomas, the other son, held a many years, and is still holding, a certain and responsible situation in the city of Manchester. Mr Henry Heginbotham, surgeon, the well-known historian of this town, married one of Mr Littlewood's daughters, and at her decease again married in the same family. I have been told that one daughter, Martha, is still living.

I will conclude this paper by inserting a song, which was very popular in Stockport at one time:

#### THE DOWNFALL AND DECADENCE OF STOCKPORT.

A LAMENTATION, BY HENRY HERRY.

Ye people of Stockport, attend to my song,  
While I rhyme of your town, it will not take me long;  
Why you are sinking and becoming poor,  
And poverty's knocking at every door.



## Chorus.

O this Stopport, once noted Stepport,  
It's doomed to decadence, and sure to come down.  
I remember t' time well, when I wer a lad,  
And living i' th' Hillgate, along with my dad,  
Hand-Loom Weaving was then doing wall,  
But that's all gone to the devil i' h—ll.

## Chorus.

A turn-out took place, 'twere in twenty nine,  
And that were the time that yer trade had left tina.  
The sorts you were weaving they give you the sack,  
Went to Bowton and Preston, but never come back.

## Chorus.

There were old Dickey Peeling and Sandy Mac Phee  
Would ne'er let the Masters and Workmen agree;  
And Cooper and Brocklehurst, Wood, Chadwick, and  
Tongue,  
Singing we'll have ten per cent. all the day long.

## Chorus.

There was Ratcliffe's i' th' Hillgate, a very old firm,  
An' owd Sammy Barratt's they've nearly pulled down;  
Gee's, too, in Edgeley, has a great plant,  
And Tommy Puddin wer running Spring Bank.

## Chorus.

Jackey Burtinshaw was in St. Peter's Square,  
An' at Mersey Mills, Smith and Axon were there;  
Brown and Powell's they run the next Mill,  
And owd Higson's it stood upon Lancashire Hill.

## Chorus.

Th' old White Lion Yard stands next in my song,  
An' Marland's i' th' Park nearly half-a-mile long;  
Garside's and Howard's from Portwood are gone,  
One had a big nose that they call'd Captain John.

## Chorus.

Marlands in Portwood are gone to their rest,  
An' old Joseph Lane, where my Fayther once dressed;  
Close by was Jes. Howard's, he wore a white hat,  
And went by the name of old blunderer wack.

## Chorus.

The Mills that I've mentioned have been standing  
long,  
For others I cannot find room in my song;  
Yer houses are empty and tumblin' down,  
So what do ye think o' th' state o' yer town.

## Chorus.

Before leaving Lancashire-hill, I wish to name a  
few games which the young folks enjoyed when I  
first became a resident in that locality which have  
almost become extinct. Throstle overlookers were  
then, as they are now, very anxious to get the

bobbins "doffed" (i.e., taken off the frame) as  
quickly as possible. To attain this end various  
plans were adopted. Some overlookers would stand  
at the frame end with a strap or a rope end in his  
hand, watching the doffers doff; and the last doffer  
would get a stroke from the rope end to sharpen  
him up. Another plan was for the last doffer to  
stay in the mill, sweep the room floor, and gather  
up the bobbins, whilst the rest of the doffers went  
outside the mill to play. Another method was for  
the last doffer to go through what was called the  
"Pig market." This was something similar to a  
sailor being flogged through the fleet. The doffers  
all stooped down and opened wide their legs. The  
culprit then had to pass through the aperture  
made by the legs of the other doffers, and as he  
passed along the other doffers gave him as many  
slaps on his posterior with their open hands as  
they could, hence it was to the culprit's interest  
for him to pass through the legs quickly.

There was also a game representing a bear bait.  
We cast lots who should be the bear, then there  
was a boy chosen to represent the owner of the  
bear, whom we called the bellert. The dogs were  
made up by the other boys who were taking part in  
the game, each being armed with a rope end or a  
knotted handkerchief. The bear crouched down  
on his hands and knees, having hold of the end of  
a string some yards in length, whilst the bellert  
held the other end. The bellert stood away from  
the bear, the full length of the string, whilst the  
dogs stood round it, ready to inflict punishment.  
The owner of the bear then shouted out the follow-  
ing doggerel:

One, two, three,  
My bear's free;  
If thou touches my bear  
I'll touch thee.

At the last word the lads strike at the bear with  
their weapons, and the bellert makes a rush at the  
lads, trying to tick them. The rules of this game  
were if a lad struck at the bear before the word  
"three" was spoken he had to be the bear. The  
bellert generally dodged a bit in reciting his  
rhyme, to cause that result. It was the bellert's  
duty to protect his bear. To do so he kept walking  
round it, trying to catch the dogs as they came to  
inflict punishment; the first boy that the bellert  
happened to tick had then to take the part of the  
bear, and had the privilege of choosing his own  
bellert. This was a very ancient, barbarous, cruel  
and painful game. I have known lads who were

carried marks on their backs a long time after playing at it.

We had in 1826 a very rough game, which was called 'Soo page,' the derivation of which I imagine has come from "school page." To commence this game someone would bring a worthless hat or cap and volunteer to protect it. The cap was then thrown on the ground, the other boys commenced to kick it, and the owner did his best in trying to regain it. If a luckless lad kicked it, and the owner caught it before it alighted on the ground, then he that kicked it the last had to doff his cap, throw it on the ground, and protect it in a like manner. I have had several caps which have had their peaks kicked off and otherwise damaged by taking part in this foolish game, and when I have gone home I have received severe chastisement at the hands of my mother.

Another game was called "Cocksticks," which was very largely patronised by the youths, both in the workshops and in the streets, on Shrove Tuesday. The confectioners in those days manufactured a kind of coarse gingerbread, which they baked in large flat tins. It was rolled flat whilst in the tins. It was then stamped with a die, which cut the gingerbread into the form of small hearts, and was then placed in the oven and baked. These small gingerbread hearts were sold at about sixteen for a penny. The way we played the game was this. We placed a brick on its end on the ground (that is, if we could get one). As many as were playing placed a gingerbread on this upright brick. Some lad would bring out of the house his mother's rolling-pin, then we were complete for the game. We went about a dozen yards from the brick, and each in turn had a throw with this rolling-pin at the gingerbreads placed on the brick end. The thrower had all he knocked off; if he had the good luck to knock the brick down, then he had all that was placed on it. This was repeated until the stock of gingerbreads got into one or two lads' hands. This was a relic of a barbarous game common in England centuries ago, which would astonish the officials of the Humane Society, also of all right-thinking men who saw it practised. Those taking part in what was the forerunner of "cocksticks" drove a stake or a stick in the ground. A live cock was then fixed on the top, its legs having been fastened to the stake with cords, the game commenced. As in the game of cocksticks, each had a throw at this live bird in turns, and the one who could break its legs that it could not stand, or

kill it, claimed the body, and bore it home as a trophy.

We had a game called "Cockalorum" which I have neither seen nor heard of being played since I left residing in Chestergate in the year 1826. It was performed in the following manner. We cast lots which lad should be the "horse" first. The horse then placed his arms and head against a wall, holding his back in a horizontal position. A lad then bestrid his back, and holding up as many fingers as he chose, recited the following doggerel:

"I cockalorum, tup, tup, tup.  
How many fingers do I hold up?"

If the boy taking the part of the horse guessed aright the one on his back had to dismount and take the place of the horse, and the former horse became the rider.

Football was a game heartily enjoyed when I was young, but we had not then got to the same perfection in the game as our youths have arrived at at the present time. Formerly we might hear tell of a youth having had his shins accidentally kicked, but we never heard of the players having had their legs, ribs, and collar bones broken, and of players being rammed in the stomach by a youth's head, and then of the sufferer being led off the field in a dying state, as we can read of in this enlightened age.

We had "Leap frog," and "Foot and a half," both exhilarating games, which our youths greatly patronised. There were a number of other games which we used to enjoy, and which I cannot now enumerate, as I don't want to weary my readers. I will conclude my remarks on our old games with the one which we called "Ducks and drakes." This was a very lively and graceful game, and was played by both sexes. To play this game properly each lad should take hold of the hand of a lass. They then formed themselves in a line, varying in length according to the number taking part. The couple at one end of the line hold up their hands, which formed an arch. Those at the other end of the line then commenced to run gently towards the arch, which they passed under followed by each succeeding couple, until all had passed through. I have taken part in this game on several occasions; our route was generally from Dodge-hill on the Old-road to the place then called "Green's Flash," and back again.

Green's Flash was a triangular plot of ground on

which was a number of antiquated tumble down tenements. It was bordered by three roadways, comprising the Old-road, the New-road, which was made when the Ashton Canal was completed, and a very ancient thoroughfare, now called Beard-street, to perpetuate the name of the founder of the corn mill which is now owned by Messrs Nelstrop and Co. These old dwellings all fronted what is now called Beard-street. The tenants of these old cottages, sixty years ago, were John Beard, of whose history I know nothing. At the next house resided James and Nancy Hudson, horse hair spinners. Then came Samuel Sutton, baker, who had his bakehouse at the rear of his dwelling. He had also another bakehouse in Hesketh-street, which my mother patronised, there being no oven in the house which we then inhabited. Then came old Mother Mosley, who had a number of uncultivated sons who were often getting in trouble. The next cottage to hers was tenanted by Joshua Beesley and family, some of whom are still living. This Green's Flash estate, in the early part of the present century, was owned by Mr Bancroft. About the year 1820 he absconded, and was never heard of again. The tenants for many years after lived on the estate rent free until they began to quarrel with each other about certain rights. At this juncture the late rector of Stockport put in a claim, and became the owner of the Green's Flash estate.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

#### CHORLEY HALL.

The following extracts from Earwaker's *East Cheshire* (i—165) may have an interest for the readers of CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES after the paper read by me on the same subject at the meeting at Alderley of the members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society:—

"Chorley Hall is a very interesting building, now used as a farmhouse. It is surrounded by a moat. The oldest portion of the hall is opposite to the bridge, and is built entirely of stone, two storeys in height, with three gables, the windows for the most part having stone mullions and transoms. The main entrance is immediately opposite the bridge, through an arched doorway which opens into a passage leading right through the building to an exactly similar doorway on the other side, now blocked up. On the right hand side of this passage was the old dining hall, probably open to the roof, but now converted into two rooms by a modern floor; and on the other side of this passage was the communication with the kitchen and other offices by three pointed doorways still remaining.

This is a very important feature in all medieval buildings, and is well exemplified in the still-existing arrangements of the college halls at Oxford and Cambridge. These features would point to the early part of the 15th century, *temp* Henry V. and VI, as the probable date of the erection of this the oldest portion of the building. . . It was not improbably built by William de Hondford, the husband of Matilda Legh of Adlington.

"At right angles to this old part of the hall then projects a gabled building, which is evidently of later date. It is a good specimen of the black and white timber and plaster houses which are such a characteristic feature in Cheshire and Lancashire, and was probably erected towards the beginning or middle of the 16th century. About 1527 Thomas Davenport acquired the Chorley estates, and not improbably determined to add to the previous building built and inhabited by the Hondfords, whose heiress he had married. On a series of large square stones as a foundation, massive beams of timber were laid, into which others are fixed at right angles, these being connected one with another by smaller horizontal beams and diagonal tie beams. The squares thus formed were filled in with 'raddlins and daub,' and well covered, on which patterns were picked out in black and white . . . ochre. . . . One of the rooms in this portion of the house is wainscotted, and has a finely-carved oak dining piece, which is probably coeval with the erection of this portion of the hall. It is of dark black oak.

"A few years ago a series of extracts from an old rate book of the township of Chorley, for the years 1744-1784, were read before the Rosicrucian Brotherhood, and subsequently printed. The entries chiefly refer to the rates levied on the occupiers of land and the disbursements of money so collected to the poor, &c., and as such do not call for much remark. It seems probable that at this time Sir James Stanley occupied Chorley Hall, where he occasionally resided till the year 1773. In 1745 there is an entry:

Spent at Macclesfield about ye souldiers ..... 0 1 6

which probably has reference to the military preparations made to resist the march of the young Pretender. It is stated that after leaving Manchester some portion of his troops encamped at Wilmaloe and marched through Chorley to Macclesfield on the following day.

I conclude that Mr Earwaker has been led by superficial appearances when he states that the older portion of Chorley Hall is "entirely of stone." It is not so. The gables above the square are framed; but unfortunately this framework is plastered over, and therefore does not show unless closely examined. And then in one part this timbered work comes down much lower than the eaves of the building. But the

most important feature is that the inside of the house is wholly framed work and raddle-and-dobe—excepting some trifling repairs done from time to time.

Now we cannot conceive of a building having the outside walls of stone and the inner walls of frame-work, that is, not if it were all of one age. A little examination by a practical and skilled man will show that this, the older portion of Chorley Hall, as well as the more modern wing, was at first altogether a framed building on a stone plinth. This older stone plinth, even now, in places, shows itself at the foot of the less ancient stone wall. The most ancient part of the hall was originally a framed building, and the stone work, ancient as it is, has been only an under-wall of an existing house. The stone mullioned windows have replaced older oaken windows, and the moulded Gothic doorways have replaced oaken doors and frames. The back parts of the building in some places have, at a more recent time, been under-walled with bricks, and the old stone chimney which had doubtless separated stone shafts had been topped by a comparatively modern brick stock; but underneath this and to the ground the old chimney still exists, and possibly if it were bared of plaster there is the old mantle arch, as suggested by Mr Holme Nicholson, but of this I am not quite sure. Very many of our ancient buildings have a "cork" of an older building inside them, and even this most ancient part of Chorley Hall is an old framed building which has been repaired extensively in former times by stone, a material, by the way, being easily got at in the neighbourhood, perhaps at the time more easily than bricks; for bricks wanted coals to burn them, and with no roads there were not to be had at Chorley. Later repairs have been made with bricks, which were by that time in more common use.

I may just say that some fifty years back a great-uncle of mine, Samuel Norbury, of Alderley, a mason, was employed to flag a floor in this old hall; and upon digging up the apparently clay floor he came upon a very good under-floor of diamond-shaped flags, belonging to the older order of things. The older portion of Chorley Hall is not "entirely of stone," but rather the reverse of wood.

Left: Wm. Norbury.

#### THE ANGLO-NORMANS IN FLINTSHIRE.

I was not aware when I wrote my former note to you on the above subject that Sir Llywelyn Turner had read a paper at Chester upon Edward the First's connection with Carnarvonshire. He has not given us any new matter to reflect upon, but he carries us beyond Mr Henry Taylor's researches, because the King had crossed the river Conway, had entered into Carnarvonshire, and, so to speak, had settled down into

the invention of a plan whereby he was to acquire for himself and his successors the dominions of Wales.

This gentleman implies that Edward had secured Ruthin and Hawarden Castles, and if it be true that he also held Denbigh, we can well understand how effectually he must have dominated over Flintshire and its borders when he marched from Chester to Flint. Had he gained a safe footing in the county by the prowess of his own immediate followers, or was that footing secured for him by the Anglo-Normans under the Earls of Chester? If that question is answered in the latter sense, then we are face to face with the enquiry, when and how far the Earls of Chester had penetrated into North Wales before Edward undertook his own part of the conquest of the Principality? We know that the Earls had made many aggressions upon North Wales, and it is admitted that they occupied and even held for a time some strong places on the sea coast, but if Sir Llywelyn Turner means they had gained and then held Ruthri Castle, we have to ask for evidences of the fact, and some historic proofs in support of the contention.

Mr Williams, in his "History of Denbigh," says that Henry entered into a treaty with Owen Gwynedd in 1157, under which the English obtained quiet possession of Denbigh Castle, and that he, therefore, appointed Adam de Saltzburg to be captain of the garrison there. This gentleman is supposed to have been the son of a Cheshire gentleman of his name who had descended from Adam de Saltzburg, a younger son of the Royal house of Bavaria, who had gained a settlement in Lancashire in very early days, and Mrs Piozzi states in one of her works that she had seen the proofs of his claim to the descent at Saltzburg. He was evidently, therefore, a trusted supporter of the English Sovereign, and his Welsh descendants continued at Denbigh from 1157 to 1289, when, according to Burke, Sir Henry Salisbury had granted to him by Edward the First the lands of Llevenir, which had fallen into the King's hands upon the attainder of Prince David. Assuming that to be so, and that Sir Llywelyn Turner's statement be correct, the English must have gained a very safe footing upon the extreme borders of Flintshire long before Edward possessed himself of Flint.

The Earls of Chester had been powerful, aggressive, and warlike, and if they had succeeded in taking and in holding Caergwrie, Hawarden, and Rhuddlan Castles, and the English held Ruthin and Denbigh Castles also, one-half of Edward's object had been gained for him long anterior to his own march into North Wales. We Cheshire men, therefore, have a direct interest in the true solution of the question raised by Mr Taylor and Sir Llywelyn Turner in their papers, and before we can give up the accepted theory that the Anglo-Normans had occupied Flintshire in force before the final conquest of Wales, we must see the proofs to the contrary.

A CHESHIRE QUARY.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1886.

## Notes.

## CURIOSITIES OF DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

Compiled from the *Manchester Mercury and Harrop's Advertiser*.

## JANUARY, 1800.

Friday se'nnight, at Pennington Hall, the seat of James Hilton, Esq., Richard Rutter, aged 82, where he had been a faithful servant as husbandman for 47 years. His salary was never more than £6 a year, yet his honest savings have accumulated to several hundred pounds.

A few days ago, at Carrismacross, Londonderry, Mr J. Wilson, aged 117.—Late, in the 101st year of his age, Mr Wm. Fenteman, of Ripon, Yorkshire.

Thursday se'nnight, at Lukborough, Worcestershire, Henry Davies, a labourer. He was born in the year 1809, and during the long period of his existence had lived the quiet and innocent life of an ancient English husbandman. He was particularly skilful in grafting, and at the age of 96 was on the upper branches of trees pursuing his occupation with great vigour and activity.

Thursday, at Stratford-upon-Avon, after a courtship of twenty-six years, Mr Miles Statham, coachman, to Mrs Mary Marshall. This respectable veteran of the whip has followed the above employment upwards of twenty-seven years for Messrs Payton, Wyer, and Co., on the old post-coach from Birmingham to Oxford, in which service he has accumulated a good fortune. He has travelled during the time 350,808 miles, which is more than forty-four times the diameter of the earth. The bride has also lived at Mr Payton's, the Shakespeare Inn, Stratford-upon-Avon, as chambermaid twenty-two years, in which capacity she has also acquired a considerable property. Their two ages amount to 101 years.

## FEBRUARY, 1800.

On Tuesday, Eliz. Etchels, of Fallsworth, aged 88 years. The deceased was grandmother and great-grandmother to 150 children.

A few days since, at the great age of 105 years, Thos. Colton, of Liscard, in Cheshire, well known by having brought shell fish and mushrooms to Liverpool for nearly 40 years.

## APRIL, 1800.

Lately, at Brampton, Cumberland, aged 96, Rowland Nicholson, formerly a shoemaker, and an honest and

industrious man. He was a freeman of the city of Carlisle, had voted at fifteen elections, and was so much attached to J. O. Curwen, Esq., and Sir F. F. Vane, Bart., and the Blue interest there, as frequently to express an anxious wish to be interred in a blue coffin attended by four bearers with blue ribbons at their hats, which his relations complied with.

At Perth, Ellspet Watson, at the great age of 115. She was born in the reign of James 2nd. When in the prime of life she did not exceed 2 feet 9 inches in height. She had not had any other way of living for many years but begging her bread from door to door, and she went her usual rounds till within a few weeks of her death, although she had more than £30 sterling of ready cash in her possession when she died.

## MAY, 1800.

Wednesday se'nnight, William Lees, of Austerland, a member of a benefit society held at Hey Chapel, from which he has been paid during his late sickness and towards his funeral expenses the sum of £26 16s.

Sunday se'nnight, at Swine, in Holderness, in the 82d year of her age, much respected by her friends and acquaintances, Mrs Eaton, wife of Mr John Eaton, of that place, and relict of the late John Pudley, of Newark-upon-Trent. It is rather remarkable that she at different periods of her life stood in the following degrees of relationship (by marriage) to a gentleman in Hull, viz., aunt to his father, sister to his mother, and mother to himself, her first husband having been his father's uncle, her last his mother's brother, and he having married her daughter-in-law.

## JUNE, 1800.

On the 12th ult, in the Island of Anglessea, Mr Henry Ceehan, a gentleman well known for his pedestrian feats, to Miss Lucy Pencock (the rich heiress of the late Mr John Hughes, Bawgyddanhall), a lady of much beauty, but entirely deaf and dumb. This circumstance drew together an amazing concourse of people to witness the ceremony, which on the bride's part was literally performed by proxy. A splendid entertainment was given on the occasion by the bridegroom, but a dreadful catastrophe closed the scene, for the bride, in coming downstairs, made a false step, and fell with so much violence against a chair that she immediately expired.

## JULY, 1800.

Lately, Mary Ogden, of Fallsworth, in the 80th year of her age. She was mother to seven children, grandmother to 44, great grandmother to 100, great great

grandmother to 85, aunt to 34, great aunt to 243, and great great aunt to 138, the offspring of two brothers and two sisters. Total 583.

SEPTEMBER, 1800.

Last week, at Tetbury, Ambrose Bennett, aged 106 years and two months. He had been a common soldier nearly sixty years, and fought in many battles in the reigns of Queen Anne, George II., and his present Majesty.

NOVEMBER, 1800.

Latelý, at West Keal, near Spiltsby, in Lincolnshire, Elizabeth Shaw, at the advanced age of 117. She remembered the revolution in 1688, and retained her senses to the last hour of her life.

Tuesday last, at Bristol, William Evans, late a mariner under the memorable Captain Cook, whom he accompanied in his three voyages round the world, was present at the time of his death, and one of those sent on shore to recover his remains.

At Burnley, Mr Henry Spencer, bookseller, aged 58, a man distinguished for his genius and eccentricity. His coffin was made of wood of his own growing he kept by him for several years prior to his death.

DECEMBER, 1800.

At Hadley, near Oxford, after a short illness, Admiral Sir George Bower. He lost a leg in the famous battle of the first of June, 1794.

Rusholme, Manchester.      FREDERICK L. TAVARE.

DEGREES.

I believe the theory of degrees is not so well or so widely understood as it ought to be, and hence I trust that the readers of the CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES will not consider an apology due for my placing before them a few rough notes on this subject.

To plunge at once in *medias res*, how often in common parlance is it said of a person, "He has gone to 'take' his degree." That this expression is not most felicitous I hope to show further on, but first it may be as well to try whether anything can be learned from the word "degree" itself. Of course, it goes without the saying that it is connected with the Latin *gradus* which was used by the writers *media et in fine Latinitatis* for a "dignity." Thus Sir Edward Coke says: "To be a baronet or knight *est gradus*, but to be an esquire or gentleman *est status nam gradus continet status in se sed non e contrario*." In connection with this statement it is worthy of remark that graduates are still occasionally styled *De-Dominus-Sir*, a title now employed almost exclusively to designate knights or baronets.

The late Dr. Ormerod, too, whose critical acumen and heraldic learning were surely of the highest order, describing a graduate, states that he was "created" M.A. In a word, a little consideration must lead to the conviction that a degree is not a mere pass examination certificate, but essentially an honour. On those who deny this lies the onus of giving another *raison d'être* of a peer's privilege of claiming degrees *jure dignitatis*, for of course since degrees of this kind are conferred without any examination whatever, the granting body knows nothing of the recipient's learning. I have endeavoured above to show the points of agreement between knighthood and "graduateship." A knight is "created," so is a master of arts; the former is styled Sir, so is the latter. Without pressing the analogy too closely, I would leave my readers to draw their own inferences.

To the question, "By whom can degrees be legally granted?" there is but one answer—"by the Sovereign and the Sovereign's authority." We have the statement of no less an authority than Sir William Blackstone that the Sovereign is *fons honoris*. Hence an institution which has not a royal charter has no more power to grant degrees than a private person. There are certain well-known charterless colleges which affect to grant quasi degrees (in reality pass examination certificates), but those who are proud (and deservedly so) to hold them are not legally graduates, neither are they entitled to rank with graduates properly so called. In proof of the Sovereign's power to grant degrees I would appeal to the fact that Charles II. created Sir William Dugdale M.A. at Oxford. It is not, I think, generally known that the Archbishops of Canterbury have this power, but such is the case. Moreover, degrees granted by them rank next after those conferred by the Sovereign. In conclusion, we know that a degree practically confers precedence on its possessor, but does it confer any precedence theoretically? It would seem that by those best able to judge this question is answered in the affirmative, but in the present lamentable state of the code of "general precedence" it is hardly safe to dogmatise.      PORTCULLIS.

## Replies.

THE ADLINGTON MURDER IN 1848.

Some few weeks ago a correspondent to "Cheshire Notes and Queries" wrote, asking for information relating to the above occurrence. The report of the trial was, I believe, reprinted from the *Stockport Advertiser* in the shape of a broadside, but beyond that I think "Inquirer" will only be able to find the particulars he desires in the file of the *Advertiser* for 1848. The following facts, however, which are

excerpts from that journal may serve his purpose and at the same time interest the readers of "Notes and Queries" respecting an event that many living can remember. The first account is thus given in the *Advertiser* for Friday, February 18th, 1848:—

**CONFLICT WITH HIGHWAYMEN.—TWO BROTHERS SHOT.**

On Friday afternoon, a person named Ernill, a provision dealer of Derby-street, Macclesfield, was stopped in the road at Adlington, between this town and Macclesfield, by two men, who demanded his money or his life; at the same time one of them presented a pistol to his face, and another pointed one to his ear. They then snatched at his watch, but the chain broke, leaving the seals only in their hands. They knocked him down with the butt ends of their pistols into a ditch, where they would no doubt have murdered him had it not been for the arrival of a person. The instant they saw the man coming, the robbers jumped over the hedge, ran over a field, and made for a place called the Blake Hey Wood. Ernill, as soon as he could get out of the ditch, made for Hollingworth Smithy, where he gave an alarm, and Mr Henshall, with others, set off in pursuit of the villains, who were followed across the line of railway to Shrigley, where a number of people joined the pursuers and followed into the wood, where the robbers stopped, and threatened their pursuers that if they came nearer they would fire, holding each at the time a horse-pistol in either hand. The pursuers, however, pressing round, the miscreants fired. Two brothers, named William and John Wyatt, immediately fell dangerously wounded. A messenger was at once dispatched to Macclesfield for medical aid. The robbers were almost at the same time secured; their names are John Walmsley and William Bates. Upon searching them, four pistols were found. Upon Bates was a flask of powder and bullets, a quantity of percussion caps, and some gun wadding. Upon Walmsley were found thirteen bullets and caps, and some powder. One of the pistols was found to be loaded with a ball. The prisoners were immediately identified by the man they had robbed. William Wyatt was shot quite through the body, and died on Saturday. Before he died, Mr Legh, of Adlington, one of the magistrates, thought it proper to take his deposition. He then stated that it was Walmsley who shot at him. After Walmsley had been seized, Bates continued to struggle particularly with a man named Hunt, who fell into a hole with him. As they were getting up, Bates put a pistol over his shoulder and fired at his antagonist, but missed him. Early on Saturday morning William Wyatt sent for his fellow-workmen from the quarry, shook hands with them all, and invited them to his funeral. He continued perfectly calm and rational until his death, which occurred about half-past ten o'clock the same morning. He was buried on Tuesday, at Prestbury Church, and his body was followed to the grave by a large number of his friends and neighbours. He was about 40 years of age, was a married man, and has left a widow and seven children, the youngest of whom was only born a few days ago—five by a first, and two by a second wife, to lament his loss. He has always had the character of a peaceful, well-disposed, and industrious man. Thomas Wyatt, his elder brother, is about 45 years of age; he also is a married man, with a family.—The prisoners were brought up at the Town Hall, Macclesfield, on Tuesday, at ten o'clock, and committed to take their trials for the murder. On Monday the inquest was held at

Shrigley and a verdict of *Willful Murder* returned against Walmsley and Bates. They are both Irishmen, and would seem not to be very long from their own country. They were begging at a farmhouse in Adlington in the morning, but are quite unknown to the police. Mr Legh, the magistrate, extended the utmost kindness to all the parties injured. Mr Ernill was retained at the hall for the night, and sent home the next morning with great care. He was very severely injured, having received a fracture of the left collar bone, a supposed strain of the left leg, and extensive bruises. His collar bone was set on Sunday morning, and is going on well; but the extent of injury to the leg cannot yet be ascertained. Mr Newbold, of Macclesfield, was in attendance on William Wyatt to within an hour of his death, and has since attended Thomas Wyatt, whose wound is going on favourably.

In the issue of Friday, February 25, 1848, is this advertisement:—

**SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE WYATT FAMILY AND OTHERS.**

A MEETING of the Clergy, Magistrates, and Gentlemen, held at Mr Swinnerton's, in Macclesfield, on the 22nd of February, 1848, for the purpose of organising a subscription for the benefit of the family of William Wyatt, and others, for their noble and gallant conduct in the apprehension of the two highwaymen at Adlington, near Macclesfield, on the 11th instant;

CHARLES RICHARD BANASTEE LEGH, Esq., in the Chair;

*Resolved,—*

That a subscription be forthwith opened for the benefit of the widow and children of William Wyatt; and also for the purpose of rewarding Thomas Wyatt and others engaged in the capture of the two highwaymen at Adlington.

That the fund to be so raised shall be appropriated or invested for the benefit of the parties, in such a manner, and in such proportions, as shall be decided upon by the committee to be appointed for that purpose. Special donations will be received for the benefit of any of the parties above-named.

That the committee consist of the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number:—

O. R. B. Legh, Esq. Adlington Hall  
Thomas Marsland, Esq. Henbury Hall  
Thomas Hibbert, Esq. Birtles Hall  
T. R. Daintry, Esq. North Rode  
Dr. Swanwick, Macclesfield  
The Rev. J. Thorneycroft, Thorneycroft Hall  
The Rev. C. A. J. Smith, Macclesfield  
The Rev. Peter Legh, Lyme Hall  
The Rev. J. Sumner, Pott Shrigley  
The Rev. George Palmer, Bollington  
The Rev. W. Pearson, Prestbury  
The Rev. W. H. R. Brickman, Macclesfield  
The Mayor and Magistrates of Macclesfield  
Thos. I. Watts, Esq. Macclesfield  
Edward Hall, Esq. Macclesfield  
Edward Newbold, Esq. Macclesfield  
John May, Esq. Macclesfield  
Martin Swindells, Esq. Bollington

That the Rev. W. Pearson be treasurer; and Mr Swinnerton secretary.

That subscriptions be received by the committee

treasurer, and secretary, and at the following banks:— Messrs Brooklehurst and Co., Macclesfield; at the Manchester and Liverpool District Bank, and at any of its branches; and by Messrs Smith, Payne, and Co., London.

That the foregoing resolutions be published under the direction of the committee.

C. R. B. LEIGH, Chairman.

Not to be outdone by his *confreres*, Mr Lomax, then the proprietor of the *Advertiser*, starts a subscription list in Stockport in behalf of the widow and orphans. This paragraph appears in the same issue as the advertisement given above:—

THE LATE ROBBERY AND MURDER AT ADLINGTON.— We perceive by an advertisement in another column, that an appeal is now making to a benevolent public, on behalf of the widow and the seven orphan children of William Wyatt, who was shot and murdered in an endeavour to apprehend two highwaymen, who had committed a robbery in the afternoon of Friday, the 11th instant, between Adlington and Macclesfield. If ever there was a case where the sympathy and benevolence of the public was required, most certainly it is the present one, for the unfortunate man fell a sacrifice to his zeal in defending the laws of his country. We copy the following suggestive letter from a contemporary (*Macclesfield Courier*):—

"I read with satisfaction your remarks upon the case of poor Wyatt, who was shot in capturing the robbers near Macclesfield. I quite agree with you in the contrast between the English and Irish people, the latter regarding with apathy, if not with pleasure, cold blooded murder; the other rushing to the rescue of the person attacked, and to bring the violators of the law to justice. But ought we to stop here? Ought the community to suffer the family of the gallant and worthy fellow who fell a victim to his manly support of law, and his fearless indignation against the ruffians, to be sufferers for his public devotion? I think not. His praise would be our condemnation if we did so."

The smallest donation, in behalf of this fund, will be thankfully received at *The Advertiser Office*, where a list of contributions, already paid, now lies; but we should prefer that a public meeting be held, when a committee might be formed and the design and object of the promoters be more fully and more beneficially developed than through our limited means.

As a result of the above paragraph Mr Lomax is enabled to come out with the following advertisement on Friday, March 10:—

THE ADLINGTON HIGHWAY ROBBERY AND MURDER.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS, in Stockport, for the Benefit of the Family of WILLIAM WYATT, and others, for their noble and gallant conduct in the apprehension of the two Highwaymen, at Adlington, near Macclesfield, on the 11th February, 1848.

Sums contributed at *The Advertiser Office*.

|                          | £ | s. | d. |
|--------------------------|---|----|----|
| James Newton, Esq .....  | 1 | 0  | 0  |
| John Marsland, Esq ..... | 1 | 0  | 0  |
| Richard Sykes, Esq ..... | 1 | 0  | 0  |
| Allen and Hunt .....     | 2 | 0  | 0  |

|                                        |   |    |   |
|----------------------------------------|---|----|---|
| John Lees .....                        | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| Robert Gordon .....                    | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| James Lomax .....                      | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Rev. T. Williams, Wesleyan Minister..  | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| John Boden .....                       | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Rev. T. B. Dickson, Marple .....       | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| J. Sadler, Police Superintendent ..... | 0 | 7  | 6 |
| Rev. C. B. Jeafferson .....            | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| John Hart .....                        | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| Jane Bracegirdle, Harrytown .....      | 0 | 5  | 0 |

*The Manchester and Liverpool District Bank.*

|                                  |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Osephas Howard, Esq .....        | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| F. S. Clayton .....              | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| George Barnes (Birkenhead) ..... | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Joseph Joule .....               | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| James Wilkinson .....            | 1 | 0 | 0 |

*Mr Morley's, the Nelson Inn, Wellington Road.*

|                                      |   |    |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|----|---|
| Robert Shepley, Glossop .....        | 3 | 0  | 0 |
| R. and J. Shepley, Marple .....      | 2 | 0  | 0 |
| John and Joseph Bennett, Garrison .. | 2 | 0  | 0 |
| James Ingham .....                   | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| William Lowe, Surgeon .....          | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| Robert Brindley .....                | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| George Turner .....                  | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| Wm. Turner .....                     | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| — Birchenough .....                  | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| — Smith, Hazel Grove .....           | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| C. Yates .....                       | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| Samuel Handford .....                | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| W. Howard .....                      | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| Ed. Tomlinson .....                  | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| J. Siddeley .....                    | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| — Tonge .....                        | 0 | 2  | 6 |
| J. Crabbe .....                      | 0 | 2  | 6 |

*Mr Warrington's, the White Lion Inn.*

|                       |   |    |   |
|-----------------------|---|----|---|
| John Scott .....      | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| John Kidd .....       | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| A Friend .....        | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| S. W. Wilkinson ..... | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Joseph Heaword .....  | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| R. Warrington .....   | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| Thos. Beaver .....    | 0 | 5  | 0 |
| Joseph Faulkner ..... | 0 | 2  | 6 |
| M. Lowe .....         | 0 | 2  | 6 |
| Robert Hallmark ..... | 0 | 2  | 6 |
| Daniel Sutton .....   | 0 | 2  | 6 |
| Wm. Thorp .....       | 0 | 2  | 6 |

March 9, 1848.

On Wednesday, March 29th, 1848, the assizes were opened at Chester Castle, before Justices Erle and Williams. The calendar contained nearly sixty entries, and is described as "a frightful and melancholy catalogue, including, as it did, almost every offence known to the law, and which were attended by almost every circumstance of aggravation." The court continued to sit from March 29th to April 10th. The Adlington case was called up on the morning of Saturday, April 8th, and lasted until nine o'clock, and is thus reported in the *Advertiser* for Friday, April 14th:—

SATURDAY.

(Before Mr Justice Williams.)

TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF BATES AND MAWLEY, FOR THE MURDER OF WILLIAM WYATT.

Wm. Bates and John Mawley were indicted for wilfully



murdering Wm. Wyatt, at Adlington; also with wounding Thomas Wyatt, with intent to murder; and committing a highway robbery on James Brnill.

The prisoners pleaded "Not Guilty."

Mr Townsend and Mr Egerton were for the prosecution, and Mr Temple for the defence.

Mr Townsend stated the case. The fearful nature of the charge, the most serious crime which can be committed—that of wilful murder—induced him to entreat of the jury their whole and most anxious attention. The intense interest the case had excited in the county, from one end to the other—the great mention which had been made of it, and the numerous reports in circulation, were reasons why they should dismiss from their minds all they had heard or read concerning it. In order to give an idea of the manner in which the crime was committed, he would briefly state the circumstances of the case. Mr Townsend then detailed the acts as they appeared in evidence, and afterwards explained what constituted the crime of murder. It was necessary to prove malice a forethought. When an outrage had been committed, any one would be justified in pursuing and apprehending the offenders, who would not be justified in resisting. There was justice due to the prisoners; but there was justice also due to the country.

[We shall not enter into the evidence given on this trial, as it is only a recapitulation of what has already appeared in so many shapes and so fully in all the provincial newspapers of this and the adjoining county, and would occupy one half of our columns, as the trial lasted the whole of the day until nine o'clock at night. All the witnesses were cross-examined by the prisoners, but the questions put were generally irrelevant, uninteresting, and rambling, and could have no possible effect except to create a prejudice against themselves in the minds of the court and jury, on account of the impudence and effrontery with which they conducted themselves throughout the trial.]

The Judge then proceeded to sum up. Before proceeding to read the evidence, he would define to them some of the rules of law which were applicable to the offence on which the prisoners stood charged. It was the most serious offence known to our law, being no less than murder. Now what was the legal meaning to that crime? They had been properly told by the counsel for the prosecution that to constitute the crime of murder it must be committed by a person having malice prepenae. Now it was necessary they should understand what was meant by the word malice. With regard to that word, they would be greatly mistaken if they understood it in the way in which it was used in ordinary language. In our common tongue, the word malice is generally employed to signify a grudge or ill will; but, in law, its meaning is not confined in such limits. It implies the existence of intention or design in the mind, and it was in that sense that it was used in questions of law. For that reason it is that in law, all homicides, all taking away of life is deemed to be malicious, unless the contrary appears from some circumstances of excuse, alleviation, or qualification. The question for the jury was merely this, whether it had been shown to their satisfaction that there were any alleviating circumstances. For it was his duty to tell them, and they were bound to take the law as laid down by him, it was his duty to tell them on his own responsibility, that in the present case there was no such alleviating, qualifying, or excusing circumstances. If they should be of opinion that William Wyatt was using the

proper means for their apprehension, and the death of William Wyatt ensued in consequence of their resistance to such lawful apprehension, then the charge would be made out—for the rule of law established for centuries is this, that if the proper means taken are resisted, and death thereby ensues, that is murder—not only against one person, but against all taking part in the resistance. The next inquiry for them would be, whether William Wyatt, the man who was killed, had authority to apprehend the prisoners at the bar. Now, with regard to this, William Wyatt had a lawful authority. The law was clear on this point. If the two prisoners had been guilty of a felony—if they had committed a robbery, or an assault with intent to rob, which was itself a felony, then William Wyatt, in common with all the subjects of the realm, would have immediate power to apprehend the prisoners, in order to bring them to justice. Therefore the great question upon this part of the case is really this. First, they must be satisfied upon the evidence at this trial that at the time Wyatt was pursuing the prisoners a felony had been committed. The next question would be whether W. Wyatt used proper means to apprehend them. If they were not satisfied upon this point the crime would then be reduced to that of manslaughter. If, however, it was proved that there was nothing but what was lawful and right, then the offence could not be reduced. Supposing they were satisfied on these points, the only remaining question would be, was W. Wyatt slain by the prisoners at the bar in the course of their resistance to a lawful apprehension. If so, they had no alternative, however fearful and unpleasant the duty, but to find that they were guilty. His Lordship then went through the evidence, commenting upon it as he proceeded. The supposition that the pistol went off accidentally, he observed, was completely negatived by Williamson, who states that Bates said, "I was struck on the head before I fired." In conclusion, his Lordship stated that a party aiding and abetting was an equally guilty party with the person who committed the crime.

The jury retired to consider their verdict, and were absent about half an hour. On their return, the Foreman announced they had found the prisoners *Guilty*.

The prisoners were then asked if they had anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon them according to law.

Mawsley said it was all through his master at Liverpool running away with his money. He was at the mercy of his Lordship.

His Lordship then put on the black cap, and proceeded to pass sentence as follows:—William Bates and John Mawsley, you have been convicted of the crime of murder, and your career of life is now fast drawing towards a close. In a few days you will have to die upon the scaffold by the hand of the executioner. Let me implore you that, in the meantime, by sincere repentance, you do, by humble, contrite, and earnest prayers, ask from God, through the intercession of his blessed Son, that pardon in the next world which you cannot hope for in the present. It only remains for me to pronounce the sentence of the law, which is, that you each be taken from hence to the place from whence you came, and from thence to the place of execution, and that there you be severally hanged by the neck till your bodies are dead, and that your bodies be afterwards buried within the precincts of the jail in which you have been confined, pursuant to the statute. And may the Lord have mercy on your souls.

The prisoners were not at all affected by the sentence' Bates looked up impertinently, and exclaimed, "My Lord, shall die cheerfully."

An application was made by the counsel for the prosecution for awards to the witnesses who had joined in the pursuit.

His Lordship said he thought it a very proper case; and that Thomas Wyatt and the old man Arden especially merited it.

Mr Townsend mentioned Sheldon and Mitchell.

His Lordship would consider the application by Monday.

The time for the execution of these wretched men was not fixed. It has been of late usual that two Saturdays intervene between sentence and execution. The day of their awful doom will be Saturday, the 22nd inst.

The wife of Bates was in Chester during the assizes, and in Court during the trial. She is described as a decent looking young woman, and has two children. She states that she and her husband have resided in Liverpool several years.

HISTORICUS.

(To be continued.)

## Queries.

A STOCKPORT BELLMAN.—I should esteem it a favour if some correspondent would kindly inform me in what year James Goodwin Percival died. Prior to his death he was the bellman for Stockport. I believe Whistling Will succeeded him as bellman.

JOHN PERCIVAL.

JACOB M'GHINNES.—In a recent number of CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES particulars were given respecting the attempt to shoot Mr William Birch at Stockport by Jacob M'Ghinnes. I should be glad to know the date the event took place, the date of his trial at Chester, what he said to the judge on passing sentence, and when he was hung.

JOHN CHAPMAN.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF BOARDS OF GUARDIANS.—I should esteem it a favour to be informed through your CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES column why magistrates are appointed ex-officio members of boards of guardians, what is the special object of their being there, and how long the practice has obtained.

A COUNCILLOR.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

In my former papers I have described all the cotton manufactories which were at work in Stockport, with the exception of Mr Steel's mill in Chestergate and a few jenny shops, during the mayoralty of Mr Hardy, in the years 1823 and 1824. I also stated that it was my conviction that the earliest silk mills in these parts were erected on or near the banks of the Hempshaw Brook, the remains of which are fast disappearing from our view. I have also shown how useful a part in the past the water of the Hempshaw Brook has played. I have nothing more to state about the Carrs, excepting a short conversation I had a short time ago with Councillor Samuel Bunting, who now owns and works the Bottom Carr Mill. He told me that the Carr estate formerly belonged to a Mr Watson, and that he (Mr Watson) sold it to Mr Hope in the year 1750. It then got its present name—Hope's Carr. An ancient thoroughfare leading into the Carrs—Watson-square—still perpetuates the name. Anyone leaving the Carrs by the circuitous and not over salubrious road called Wesley-street, and arriving in Hillgate, will find themselves con-

fronted by the steep "brow" formerly called Bomber's-brow, now known as Garnett-street, and here they will find another old silk mill. Since the time when the gossamer threads were spun and "thrown" in this old mill it has been put to many purposes. In the year 1823 it was occupied by jenny-spinners. After the decline of that once popular branch of industry it stood tenantless some years. It was afterwards let to the Chartists, and there they held many of their meetings in the stormy times which are fast becoming hazy and historical. One of the rooms was occupied for many years as a dancing saloon, and it was no uncommon thing towards ten o'clock at night to see a number of mothers waiting about and watching for their daughters, who had come here to have what they called a "threepenny hop." The bottom room of this building was for a lengthened time let to a number of Stockport youths who were bent on studying the histrionic art. At the head of this society was a Mr Henshall, a painter by trade. He had a fair amount of mental talent in his composition, but nature had been unkind in not giving him that grace of form which is an important item of success in the art. Mr Henshall's greatest delight was in taking the rôle of Richard the Third, who

some historians say was not comely. He had a notion that the most deformed person was the fittest representative of the hunchback king. Mr Henshall had so often tried to represent the character of "King Dick," as it was then oftenest called, that I believe he had that character continually on his brain. He opened a beerhouse in Higher Hillgate, and had for his sign what I considered a well-executed painting, representing Edmund Kean in the character of Richard the Third in the battle scene, where he is sorely in want of a horse; and his love of the Theatrical art was shown in many ways. He left Stockport many years ago, and went to reside in a neighbouring town, where his talents were more appreciated. He prospered in business and became the proprietor of a large hotel, to which was attached a commodious concert-room, which was well patronised.

There were many anecdotes afloat, about fifty years ago, concerning these amateur players and their doings in this old mill. I will only relate two at present. One night they were trying to enact the tragedy of "Norval, the Royal Shepherd." This play was once a great favourite in Stockport; I have seen it acted almost to perfection in the old theatre at the bottom of Park-street. A billy-slubber from the Carrs was personating Norval on this occasion at the old mill in Hillgate, and there was a youth amongst the audience who worked with this billy-slubber. In one of the early scenes in the tragedy young Norval, dressed as a Scottish chief, is introduced to the presence of Lord Randolph, to whom he relates his past history. He commences thus: "My name is Norval; on the Grampian hills my father feeds his flocks, a frugal swain, who wished to keep his son, myself, at home. But I had heard of battles, and I longed to follow to the field some warlike lord." Just as Norval had got so far in his speech he was suddenly interrupted by his shopmate in the audience, who cried out, "Eh, what lies he's telling; he's Bill Johnson, slubber, 'ith Carrs." This remark put a stop to Norval's speech. He at once stepped from his histrionic pedestal, and turning to his interrupter, he shook his fist at him, and stated what he would do for him on the following morning.

I have stated before that these youths displayed their powers in the lower storey. Beneath what they termed the stage was an ashpit, as old as the mill above it, in which some of the neighbours emptied their refuse. The dampness from this ashpit had had a detrimental effect upon the boards

above, and their condition became unsafe. One night this company was enacting Shakespeare's tragedy of "Romeo and Juliet." The play had gone on smoothly until they came to the garden scene in the second act. Romeo had climbed the garden wall and gained admittance into Capulet's garden. Juliet appeared on the balcony, apostrophising the moon and pouring forth her love-strains in praise of her expected lover, whom she invoked to come to her. Romeo, waiting in the garden below, had not listened altogether from a bed of roses, for the old ashpit below asserted its presence somewhat too pungently. Hearing his lady-love call he prepared to step forward to her presence, but at that supreme moment the rickety boards on which he trod succumbed, and poor Romeo with his stage trapping was precipitated, instead of into his lady's arms, into the abyss of nastiness below. The maid found her lover less prompt than usual, and repeating the word "Romeo, where art thou?" heard a distant voice from the depths of the old ashpit reply, "I'm here, wench, up to 'th neck in muck." I need scarcely add this scene ended the performance for that night. I paid several visits when a youth to be seen and see these amateurs. I always paid a penny, which obtained for me a front seat. Some boys would bring a handful of old rags as payment for admission, which was seldom refused.

On the glebe side of the Hempshaw Brook just behind the Spread Eagle, stood another old silk mill. This mill has been put to many purposes since it was last so used. In my earliest recollection it was occupied by Mr Higginson, a machinist, who made the doubling frames for Mr Ralph Orrell's Throstle Grove Mill. He also had a large portion of the machinery in Mr Hunt's mill, in Ridgway-lane. It was afterwards and for many years occupied by Mr Bennett, an ironfounder and machinist. This old building was pulled down only a few weeks ago. A little way down the brook was another old mill, the origin of it was from the Churchgate. This has been put to various purposes. In the year 1823 it was used as the Church Sunday schools patronised by Rev. Kelsall Prescott, who then resided at Churchgate Hall. This mill, like the one on Bomber's-brow, ultimately became the haunt of another set of amateur players contemporary with those of Bomber's-brow. The organiser of the youths who met in this old mill behind the Britannia Inn was one Mr Donally, also (like Mr Henshall) a painter. I went about twice to this Britannia-yard Theatre.

I was then throated doffing at Mr Marshall's mill in the Park, afterwards Messrs Eskrigge and Barr's, which was burned down about a dozen years ago. I had for a comrade whilst working at this mill a youth named Hugh Jones, whose brother was a member of Mr Donally's company. Hugh had received a ticket from his brother which would admit him to a special performance at the theatre. Hugh tore his ticket into two halves and gave me one portion. We each tendered our portion of the ticket and gained admittance. On this night they were performing a play, "Bertram, the pirate," which I thought was performed very well. Hugh afterwards presented me with a whole ticket. I tore this in two halves, took another youth with me, and we were both admitted. Such is the force of example. The seat accommodation at this place consisted of a few forms. These were occupied by the grown-up persons assembled; the youths had to sit in the front on the floor. Mr Donally afterwards became a professional actor, and gained some popularity. This old Britannia-yard mill has also been recently pulled down to allow of the improvements which have been made in that neighbourhood.

Opposite the old mill in the "Britannia" yard and on the other side of the brook was another old workshop. The way to it is up the narrow passage adjoining the Spread Eagle Inn. I have been told that this building, which is still standing, was originally a button manufactory. At one time there were several of its kind in Stockport. About fifty years ago this building was also used as a theatre for a short season by a very poor company of professionals. A veteran named Butler was at their head. He was far advanced in years, but he was a fine portly person even then, and his looks, carriage, and physique told that he had seen better days. Mr Butler had a very fluent tongue and a large amount of verbosity in his composition; he often apologised for the meagreness of his then company, which consisted of several members of his own family, and a few other half starved players. At the same time Mr Butler did not forget to tell his patrons of the high position he formerly held in the histrionic profession. I went to this theatre on several Saturday nights. The first time I visited it, I was tempted there by seeing a paper lantern (lit up with a solitary tallow candle) hung up against the wall at the Hillgate end of the passage leading to the theatre. On two sides of the lantern (which was of large dimensions) there was written

in very legible character the following announcement, "To-night will be performed the celebrated drama of Maria Martin, or the murder in the red barn." This was a murder which had been committed a few years before by one William Corder, under very romantic circumstances, and was for some time the theme of conversation throughout England. As I paid visits on several occasions I was favoured by hearing several of Mr Butler's speeches. He said that he had travelled to all the principal towns in England, Ireland, and Scotland with Mr Richardson's theatrical company as his first "heavy man." He also said that he had performed on the London boards with Charles and John Kemble, Edmund Kean, Vandennoff, Macready, and a host of other notable actors. If I may judge by the audience attending Mr Butler's theatre, I think that he took very little money out of Stockport.

Leaving the Spread Eagle, we come to the Unicorn Inn. Here the brook enters a culvert, runs under the Unicorn, and causes one portion of that old hostelry to be on the glebe side of the brook. The Unicorn is a very old inn. Before the railway era it was patronised by the farmers who brought their produce to our market, and the country people who came to purchase, to a large extent. There is a large jug exhibited in our museum in the park which did duty in this house in the last century. There are also extant several pieces of curious earthenware which were formerly used there. These were called black jacks. They are made of some kind of black material, and are in the form of our modern "gill pots," and will hold rather over a quart. It was formerly reckoned a feat if a person could drink a black jack of real October stingo ale, and afterwards walk home sober. These vessels are certainly curiosities. They may be seen at any time by those who feel interested in such matters. This hostelry has now been owned and occupied by the Robinson family for about fifty years. The present proprietor's father, Mr William Robinson, in his younger days, was an overlooker in one of the cotton mills, a few miles from Stockport. He was thrifty and frugal, and by his own labour became the possessor of a nice sum of money. This he brought with him to Stockport half a century ago, and entered the Unicorn Inn as landlord. Every one has not got the knack, talent, or tact of catering for the public. Mr Robinson proved himself to be the right man in the right place in every respect. He was jolly, social, kind, energetic, could tell an anecdote well, and did his best to make his guests comfortable, so long as they behaved themselves with respecta-

bility. When they ceased to do that they soon had to quit his premises, for he would not tolerate any rowdiness. He never opened his house on Sundays for the sale of refreshments; he argued that six days a week were long enough for anyone to work. This genial old soul gave up active business about twenty years ago, and went to reside in a cottage which he had built in Denby-lane, Heaton Norris, where he died about a dozen years ago.

There is another curiosity which may be seen at the Unicorn Inn. This is a horn, said to be a veritable one which once adorned the head of that rare, extinct, or fabulous animal, the unicorn; it is in every respect like the one we see depicted on that animal's head.

The brook runs under the premises fronting the Hillgate, until it gets to the Rostron Brow; it then crosses the Hillgate diagonally, and runs under the Plough Inn. This Plough Inn is a very old house of resort. Mr Hickman was the landlord in the year 1823. Behind this house is a cavern in the rock capable of holding a large quantity of barrels. At the top of the rock stands another old silk mill, the entrance to which is in the High-street; this was a church Sunday school for many years before the erection of the national school on the Wellington-road, which was opened in the year 1826. The brook runs under the dwellings fronting Little Underbank, until it enters the Royal Oak yard. This is so called because there formerly stood a public house at the entrance to this yard from the Underbank; the sign of the house was the Royal Oak. There was formally another way into the yard, but a very circuitous one. We entered a narrow passage opposite the end of St. Peter's-gate, called Turner's entry; after going down a few yards we had to descend about six steps which landed us on a terrace. A wood turner's workshop was at the bottom of these steps. We then turned to our right, and went the whole length of this terrace or lanching; in doing so we had to pass a number of dwellings which were under the dwellings fronting St. Peter's-gate. At the end of this landing was a blank wall, and attached to the wall was a long flight of steps, which we descended and entered the Royal Oak yard, just behind Mr Claye's present printing works. The stream known here as the "Tin Brook" was open to view the whole length of this long yard, which extended to the rear of the present Mr Bosstock's baking establishment. Mr Barrow, tinplate worker, had his principal workshop in this yard many years before my recollection, and the workmen threw their refuse tin into this brook.

Mr Turner, the proprietor of the Queen's Head Inn, formerly had a warehouse in this yard, where he stored his spirits, &c.

This Queen's Head is a very old inn; I have been told that it dates back to the reign of Queen Anne. When I was a boy there was a swing sign hung over the principal entrance, on which was painted a likeness purporting to be that of Anne. This house has been in the possession of the present family who now own it over sixty years to my knowledge. About fifty-five years ago the father of the present proprietors built the large building opposite and the steps leading to the market, and opened a distillery in his new premises. The distillery business has been abandoned many years. A portion of this inn had to be taken down, with other property, to make way for the steps, and the bridge which now crosses the Underbank. In a room which had to be demolished were several mural paintings by a local artist, Mr Shuttleworth. The proprietors, Messrs Turner, had such a regard for one or more of these that they caused the wall and the painting to be cut out in a solid block and removed elsewhere. By this means the painting was preserved.

About thirty years ago I was in the habit of attending this house occasionally in company with a few friends, glee singers. A young man named Williamson, who kept a hat shop a few doors from the Grapes Inn, in the Underbank, was a regular attendant at the Queen's Head. This Williamson was noted for being a practical joker, he having played many tricks on his associates. One Saturday night he came and sat down in the bar parlour as usual, called for his glass, and listened to several glees very attentively. It was noticed that he had brought a hat-box with him, and had placed it at the seat near the parlour door. Someone asked him where he was going. He said that he was going to the Mile End with a new hat for Mr Dysart. A person took the hat-box out of the room unobserved and exchanged the new hat for an old one, not worth a penny, and brought the box into the parlour again. Mr Williamson went on his journey. My readers can imagine the scene that took place when he came to open his box.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH

#### THE CHURCH OF ST. WYSTAN, REPTON

The restoration of the Church of St. Wystan, Repton is now (1886) being carried out, and to show that restoration is a matter of importance the following interesting note has been issued respecting it by Rev. Dr. Cox, author of "Churches in Derbyshire."

The careful restoration and preservation of the Church of St. Wystan, of Repton, is a matter of far wider moment than a mere parochial restoration; for the history of Repton, both ecclesiastical and civil, may be said to be, without exaggeration, of strictly national interest.

In the days of the Saxon Heptarchy, the kingdom of Mercia, or Mid-England, was of greater extent than any of its fellows, for it embraced no less than seventeen shires, and stretched from the Humber to the Thames. Repton, for a long period, was the chief town and capital of Mercia. At Repton the first Christian church of the converted Saxons of the Midlands was erected. When Diuma—a Gaelic missionary, one of the four priests brought by King Peada from Lindisfarne to assist in the conversion of his kingdom to Christianity—was consecrated first Bishop of Mid-England, in the year 656, Repton was chosen as the centre of his vast see. When, after two years of active toil, Diuma died, it was at Repton that he was buried. His three successors in the Mercian see, though their united episcopate only covered a period of ten years, also regarded Repton as the centre of their missionary labours. It was whilst Repton was under this missionary episcopate that the famed monastery for the religious celibate workers of both sexes was founded, and placed under the government of an Abbess.

Here, in 696, came the young Mercian nobleman, Guthlac; and hence, after a few years' sojourn at the monastery, he launched himself on the Trent in a boat, determined to reside wherever his vessel should land. Thus it was from Repton that Christianity was carried to the eastern counties; the light shining far and wide from the swampy island of Croyland through the holy life of St. Guthlac.

Though St. Chad removed the seat of the episcopate from Repton to Lichfield, still for two centuries, until completely destroyed by the Danes in 874, the Abbey of Repton was the great centre and cradle of the Christianity of Mid-England.

The Abbey of Repton of those days has not been unfairly styled the Westminster Abbey of the converted Saxons. Here were buried Merewald, brother of King Peada; Ethebald and Withlaf, kings of Mercia; Wymond, the son of Withlaf, and Alfteda, his wife; as well as their saintly son, Wystan. Many other scions of royalty must, too, have been here interred, whose names are not known with certainty for a Norman chronicler describes the Abbey of Repton as "that most holy mausoleum of all the kings of Mercia." And others, besides Mercian royalty, obtained the much sought-for honour of burial at Repton; for we read that Kineard, brother of Sigebert, king of the West Saxons, obtained sepulture within the Abbey.

The most celebrated interment in the ancient

monastery was that of St. Wystan, the devout Mercian prince, and rightful heir to the throne, who was assassinated on the eve of Whitsun Day, 849, by his cousin Berfert. Buried by the side of his mother Alfteda, his grave is said to have become the scene of the many miracles that procured his canonisation. On the approach of the Danes, his relics were hastily removed to the Abbey of Evesham; but his memory as that of a patriot, wronged, and holy prince, remained fresh in the minds of the inhabitants of Repton.

About a century after the cruel destruction of the Abbey by the Danes, a Christian Church was once more raised in Repton, a parish church of considerable magnitude, on the ashes of the ancient monastery. The Christian patriots resolved that it should be dedicated to the worship of God in honour of their native saint, St. Wystan. This is the church, erected probably in the days of Edgar the Peaceable (958-975), which it is now proposed to restore. Parts of the present crypt and chancel, known to every archaeologist and ecclesiologist of the kingdom, as possessing unique interest, are of that date; and are about to be treated with the most reverend care, to ensure their further preservation, that they may carry on to coming generations the tale of national Christianity and its early struggles. Parochial dedications that honour local Saxon worthies are most exceptional, and it surely is fitting that the memory of St. Wystan should be honoured by due care being taken of the church that bears the name of the saintly youth, of whom William of Malmesbury says, that "there was nothing earthly more praiseworthy than his disposition, nor anything more innocent than his purity towards God."

Repton, then, it may be repeated, occupies an altogether peculiar position in the history of English Christianity and the establishment of the English Church. The original seat of Mercian Christianity, it is no straining of words, but merely a simple fact, to assert that the ancient Abbey Church of Repton—the foundations of which may yet be discovered beneath, or by the side of, the present crypt—was the prolific mother, not only of the see of Lichfield, but of the twelve great dioceses gradually thrown off from her original limits, namely, Hereford, Worcester, Lincoln, Ely, Peterborough, Chester, Manchester, Liverpool, Gloucester, Southwell, and parts of Oxford and St. Albans.

W. S.

## Replies.

CHORLEY HALL.

I believe Mr William Norbury is quite right in his

description of Chorley Hall, showing that the stone portion or front is simply a casing added to preserve the timber framework when it had probably for two or three centuries previously suffered from the effects of the weather. We had a similar instance in our own immediate neighbourhood only a few years ago, in an old building in Turncroft-lane, recently taken down by Mr Hanson; it seems formerly to have been a farmhouse, to which was near an old half-timbered barn. When the house was taken down there were revealed the remains of some very good timber framing behind, and concealed by a stone casing in front. I have no doubt this old house is one that is described in the Adlington survey of 1577 as being in "Turne Crofte Lane." Bridge Hall in Adswold, originally a timber-framed building, but now in a great measure underwalled with brick, had not many years ago in one of the wings a pair of crooks of goodly proportions; these crooks were carried up to the ridge piece, forming a sort of gothic arch; this was, no doubt, what may be termed the great hall, being open to the rafters. This arch-like appearance of the crooks led

people in the neighbourhood to suppose the hall had derived its name, not knowing that a family of Bridges had formerly occupied it and, we suppose, gave it its name.

Stockport.

J. OWEN.

#### EX-OFFICIO GUARDIANS.

In answer to the query by "A Councillor" in CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES on the above subject I would say that in former times—prior to the advent of the nineteenth century—if the poor were refused relief by the overseers, they (the poor) could appeal to the magistrates, who would hear the evidence and decide on the merits of the case. In order to overcome this difficulty therefore at the time of the passing of the New Poor Law the magistrates were all made *ex-officio* members of the board of guardians in their division for the special reason of protecting the poor. Judging by their attendances at the meetings of the boards of guardians in this part of the county the poor would be in a poor way indeed if they were the only protectors they had to look to. Q.C.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1886.

## Notes.

### HISTORICAL NOTES ON CHESHIRE.

I.  
The vast fund of Cestrian information contained in CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES is in itself a treasure of untold value; but it has moreover led to a study of the published histories of the nation, with a view of drawing out of them some pregnant facts relating to our own country, and which can be usefully employed in enriching your columns from time to time. The great work you have undertaken in your account of the electoral contests in Cheshire is interesting in every way, and when we come to reflect upon the character of past Cheshire men who took a part in the many national struggles for liberty, either with or against the sovereigns of this nation, we see how justly they are entitled to be ranked as among the "chief of men." When Charles the Second died, and his brother James succeeded to the throne, public opinion was much moved in Cheshire both for and against the Stuarts; and Macaulay, in his historical essays—called a "History of England"—has written much and nobly upon the sentiments entertained by all classes of our countrymen in that particular emergency. We need not agree with him in opinion when paying him a just tribute of praise for his glorious writings, but when perusing his pages the other day I fell in with the fol-

lowing reference to the great election which took place in England on the ascension of James to the throne, and this is how he writes of Cheshire:—"In Cheshire the contest lasted six days. The Whigs polled about seventeen hundred votes, the Tories about two thousand. The common people were vehement on the Whig side, raised the cry of 'Down with the bishops,' insulted the clergy in the streets of Chester, knocked down one gentleman of the Tory party, broke the windows and beat the constables. The militia was called out to quell the riot, and was kept assembled in order to protect the festivities of the conquest. When the poll closed a salute of five great guns from the castle proclaimed the triumph of the Church and the Crown to the surrounding country. The bells of the newly-elected members went in state to the Cross, accompanied by a band of music and by a train of knights and squires. The procession marched along, sang 'Joy to great Caesar,' a hymn ode, which had lately been written by Duffey, which, though like all Duffey's writings—utterly untimely—was, at the time, almost as popular as Lillibullers became a few years later on. Round the Cross the trainbands were drawn up in order, a bonfire was lighted, the Exclusion Bill was burned, and the health of King James was drunk with acclamation. The following day was Sunday. In the morning the militia lined the streets leading to the cathedral. The two knights of the shire were ac-

with great pomp to their chair by the magistrates of the city; heard the Dean preach a sermon, probably on the duty of passive obedience; and were afterwards feasted by the Mayor." That rich moral is well suited for your local gatherings, and I have sent to you accordingly. How tame do our records of modern elections read by the side of the glowing picture of the doings of our forefathers in "the good old times." On one side the cry of "Down with the Bishops" is responded to by the other party with a shout of "Joy to Great Caesar." Church and King then, as now, played its part in the struggle, but so changed are we that a dean must not now be allowed to preach a party sermon, nor must it be tolerated that the knights of the shire should be escorted to the cathedral church on their election by the magistrates, nor need the militia here to line the streets to guard them on their way to church. It is well to look at both pictures, and to remember, when doing so, that notwithstanding all the many changes that have taken place in our demeanour upon public occasions, to-day, as in Stuart's times, Cheshire men are still "chief" in their loyalty to their country—be they Whigs, Tories, Conservatives, or Liberals—and so will they ever remain until patriotism has ceased to be looked upon as a virtue, and the unity of this great empire becomes a thing of no moment in men's eyes. A CESTRIAN.

POWNALL FREE TOWNSHIP RECORDS.

The following is a continuation of the extracts for the records relating to the township of Pownall Fee, in the parish of Wilmslow:—

A certificate given by Joseph Millner [Miller] churchwarden of Cheadle, and Joseph Higham and John Chandley, overseers of Cheadle Buckley, acknowledging the settlements of William Leigh, Elizabeth his wife, Mary and Joseph, their children, and also of Thomas Hackney, an apprentice to the said William Leigh, to be in Cheadle Buckley.

This document is signed and sealed 4 May, 1742, by

JOSEPH MILLNER, ○  
JOSEPH HIGHAM, ○  
JOHN CHANDLEY, ○

In the presence of  
JON-M HALL,  
JOHN ALCOCK,

And is countersigned by Justices,

RICH. ARDERNE,  
WM. WRIGHT,  
GEO. CLARKE,

Evidently gentlemen in the neighbourhood of Stockport.

Certificate, dated 16th June, from churchwardens and overseers of Hale, acknowledging the settlement of John Timperley, his wife, and children, who for

his better advantage and living is now come to inhabit and dwell in Styal.

Sealed, signed, and delivered by

HENRY DARTSHIRE, ○  
JOSIAH BARROW, ○  
Overseers of the poor.  
WILLIAM COPPOCK, ○

In the presence of

ROBERT BURGESS,  
SAMUEL HEWITT.

An order "To the overseers of the poor of the township of Morley—and of Great Warford, to remove Ralph Hide, Mary his wife, and George, Elizabeth, and Mary, their children, from Morley to

Great Warford."

Signed and sealed by Justices,

H. WRIGHT, ○  
THOS. LEIGH, ○

On 2nd Sep., 1742, overseers of Warford give notice of appeal against the foregoing order, but on 30th Sep.—the same month—they withdraw the notice. These documents are signed by the overseers of the township of Great Warford,

WILLIAM LEIGH,  
WILLIAM HENESHALE.

A certificate, dated 10th Oct., 1742, from overseers of township of Sutton, Samuel Brocklehurst and and Richard Shiplbottom, acknowledging the settlement of Thomas Day and family.

Countersigned, C. LEIGH,  
PETER DAVENPORT.

It seems likely that Edward Tomson was a native<sup>o</sup> born Morleyman, who had gone to live in Park-lane near Macclesfield, and there rented a tenement which gave him a settlement, and upon this the authorities hunt up the Park-lane lease for a settlement which they copy as below.

21 Feb., 1742-3.

An agreement made betwixt Ralph Sheapley, of Sumerford, in the county of Chester, of the one part, and Edward Tomson, of Sutton, in the county aforesaid, farmer, of the other part. Witnesseth that ye said Ralph Sheapley have let and set to Edward Tomson an Estate lying and being in Park-lane, commonly called Sheapley's tenement, in consideration of which the said Edward Tomson is to pay the sum of seven pounds seven shillings a year and the window tax, and the said Edward Tomson have taken the said estate for one year, and foder if he likes, and to pay the said rent at two equal payments, that is to say at Martinmas and Lady-Day, and the said Ralph Sheapley is to set the building into tenantable repair, and if the said Edward Tomson does repair any of the said building as aforesaid, the said Edward Tomson is to be allowed for it in his rent.



In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands the day and year above written,

RALPH SHRAPLEY,  
EDWARD TOMSON.

Witness hereto,  
JAMES LEEAH,  
HENRY CHERRY.

This lease or agreement is something interesting, as showing how small tenements were let 140 years back. I am afraid that in these days many landlords would object to grant a tenant such good and easy conditions as are in this old simple little lease.

An indenture of apprenticeship dated 2nd Feb., 1743, whereby Peter Taylor and Nathan Pierson, Overseers of Pownall Fee, did bind apprentice John Mottershead, a poor boy of Pownall Fee, to Edward Hewit, of Mobberley, a Taylor. The premium was £5.

The document is signed and sealed by  
EDWARD HEWIT,

And witnessed by  
DANIEL HEATHCOTE,  
GEO. WHITTAKER,

But we do not find the names of the other contracting parties. It was, however, countersigned by two justices,

C. LEESE,  
JOHN BASKERVILLE.

This Peter Taylor was an ancestor of Peter Taylor, a Manchester merchant, who bought the Riley Estate in Chorley, and built the present mansion house. He was uncle to the late Alfred Lowe, who succeeded him. The family was from the farm in Morley where Mr John Wright lives.

Indenture of apprenticeship dated 13th Feb., 1744, whereby Thomas Cash and John Worthington, overseers of Pownall Fee, bind as an apprentice unto Isaac Worthington, of Manchester, Dutch-loom weaver, a poor boy of Pownall Fee named Thomas Jenkinson. The premium £5. The conditions the same as in the last case.

The document given below is from the parish of Manchester. It is all written and in good order. The signatures are very good indeed, and apparently of very considerable persons.

COUNTY OF } To all Persons whom it may concern,  
LANCASTER, } but more especially to the Church-  
To Wit. } wardens and Overseers of Stya  
[Styal], in the Parish of Wilmslow, in  
the County of Chester.

These are to certify that we whose Names and Seals are hereunto put, being the greater part of the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the town of Manchester, in the County of Lancashire, Do hereby own and acknowledge John Torkington

and Mary his wife to be inhabitants of and legally settled in our said Town of Manchester, in Testimony whereof we have hereunto put our Hands and Seals this twenty-seventh Day of March, in the seventeenth year of the reign of our most gracious Sovereign Lord George the second, by the Grace of God of Great Britain, &c., Defender of the Faith, &c., and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty-four.

Witness:  
ROBERT BOWKER,      EDWARD BYRON, ○  
JAMES BARRETT,      THOMAS PARKER, ○  
                                     JOS. RANCROFT, ○  
                                     JAS. BATEMAN.      ○

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, two of his Majesty's justices of the peace in and for the said county, do allow the above-written certificate, oath having first been made before us by James Barrett, one of the said witnesses, that he, the said James Barrett, did see the said churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the said town of Manchester, whose hand-seals are hereunto subscribed and set, severally sign and seal the same, and also that the names of the witnesses therein attesting such signing and sealing are of their own proper hand-writing.

JAMES CHRYSTIAN,  
ROB. BOOTH.

Indenture of apprenticeship dated 13 Feb., 1744, whereby Thomas Cash and John Worthington, overseers of Pownall Fee, do bind as an apprentice unto Isaac Worthington, of Manchester, Dutch-loom weaver, a poor boy of Pownall Fee named Thomas Jenkinson, aged between eight and nine years, until he shall attain to the age of 21 years, the premium to be £5. The master was to provide for the boy and pay him twelve pence yearly as wages, and also to well and efficiently instruct him in the trade, mystery, or occupation of a Dutch-loom weaver, which he now useth, with all things thereto belonging. Signed and sealed by the contracting parties in the presence of

WM. HEFWORTH,  
THOMAS FALKNER,  
THOMAS CASH,

And countersigned by Justices,

C. LEESE,  
JOHN BASKERVILLE.

The order of Ralph Leycester and Henry Wright, Esquires, two of his Majesty's justices of the peace in quorum, dated 28th July, 1744. Complaint having been made by overseers of poor of Pownall Fee concerning a female bastard child born in Pownall Fee to the body of Sarah Hooley, single woman, they did order that John Woodall, of Pownall Fee, husbandman, was the father of the said child; and they did order that John Woodall shall pay one pound and five shillings for expenses then already incurred against the said

child; and in future twelve pence per week until the said child shall be able to work, &c.

£ s. d. q.

April ye 23rd, 1745.

Then Robt ffiney, Isaac Kelsel, being constables for ye year 1744, maid up there acctt, and there appers in there hands one pound, which is pd. into Philip Dales and Thos. foughnor (?) hand, being overseers for ye poor.

1 0 0 0

Approved by us,  
JON. TAYLOR,  
THO. POTTS,  
JOHN KELSALL,  
PETER TAYLOR,  
THOMAS CASE,  
JOHN WORTHINGTON.

No documents but a small promisory note for £4 10s from Thomas Fawknor to Hugh Pownall.

It seems strange that 1745, the year of the rebels coming, should have so little remaining. I think the old people were amazed at the strange events of this year, and neglected their township affairs.

April ye 17th, 1746.

Then Peter Warburton and Rob. Ward, being constables for the year 1745, maid up their acct, and it appears nothing in there hand.

AARON COPPOCK,  
JON. HULME,  
PETER TAYLOR.

The subjoined examination of John Ainsworth before justices, evidently anent his settlement, is interesting in several particulars. (1) It shows what hunting up and tracing of settlements there was under the old aw of hiring and service. (2) It shows the rate of wages at the time in farm labour, and (3) it shows a custom, now quite gone out, of going from Cheshire and Lancashire into Warwickshire for the purpose of reaping the corn harvest. We have known many old men that had been "uppart" [upwards], as they called it, to shear. In some localities this old custom was called "cokeing."

Cheshire to Wit.

The examination of John Ainsworth, of the township of Pownall Fee in the said county, taken upon oath before us, two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county, this 9th day of January, 1746. Who on his oath saith: That about twelve years since he was hired for a year with John Jackson, of the township of Nether Alderley in the said county, farmer, and served the said John Jackson the said year, and received his wages for the same, and after that continued with his said master, in the said township, the space of four years as a hired servant, and received wages for the same, and after that was

hired for a year with Daniel Ward, of the township of Pownall Fee, and lived with his said master pursuant to the said hiring till the first of May, when upon some difference betwixt him and his said master he left his said service for four days, when meeting with his said master he agreed to go with him to his said service again, upon conditions that his master was to allow him a month's time to work at harvest-work in the county of Warwick, for which he was to abate his said master a month's wages, and for every day that the said John Ainsworth stayed from his sd. service over and above the said month he was to allow his sd. master sixpence, and he farther saith that he stayed a week over and above the said month, when he returned to his said service and continued in it till the end of the term, and after that he was hired for another year with his said master and continued in his said service three months, when by his master's consent he left his said service, and since then he hath not done a year's service or any other act that he knows of to gain a settlement.

Sworn before us the day and  
year above written,

C. LEECH, JOHN M. AINSWORTH.  
PETER DAVENPORT. mark.

April 25, 1747.

Then John Bray and Ro't (?) Ward, being constables for the year 1746, made up their acctt. and it appears in their hand 4 shillings, which the have pd. to Aaron Coppock, being overseer of the poor for the present year.

JON. TAYLOR.  
PETER TAYLOR.  
JON. HULME,  
JOHN PIERSON.

This year has a document which we do not like. It is but short, and therefore we give it in full.

January ye 8d, 1747.

Memorandum.—It is agreed between Aaron Coppock and Charles Miller as follows:—The said Charles Miller is to take his mother for a whole year for 10 pence per week, to be paid quarterly by the said Aaron Coppock, now overseer of the poor; and in case she shall die within the compass of one year the said Charles Miller is to bury her, and to have her bed and every other thing which belongs to her, his said mother.

As witness our hands.

AARON COPPOCK,  
his  
CHARLES M. MILLER,  
mark  
HUGH HULME,  
JONATH. TEARPE.

Removal order for John Ainsworth, his wife, and child, dated 5 January, 1747, directing the family's removal from Pownall Fee to Nether Alderley, made by justices.

WM. WRIGHT,  
JOHN BASKERVILLE.

A bond, given by Henry Pigott, of Haslingden, in the county of Chester, maltster; Elizabeth Deane, of Bollin Fee, spinster; Ruth Dean, of Bollin Fee aforesaid, widow (mother of the said Elizabeth Deane); and Mary Worrall, spinster, of Bollin Fee aforesaid; Thomas Cash, and Aaron Coppock, overseers of the poor, for fifty pounds anant the cost of the maintenance of a male bastard child of the said Elizabeth Dean, of which the said Henry Pigott was adjudged to be the father.

Signed by the bounden parties,  
In the presence of

JOHN BOLTON,  
JOHN TAYLOR.

HENNERY PIGGOTT,  
ELIZABETH DEANE,  
RUTH DEISNE,  
MARY WORRALL.

April 28, 1748.

Then Jon. Taylor and Jon. Bray for  
Thos. Potts, being constables for last  
year, maid up there acc'ts, and  
gathered for land tax  
and disburst

28 13 0 0  
26 13 8 0

In hand 1 19 4 0

and gathered for constables say  
and disburst

14 5 1 2  
13 17 2 0

In hand 0 7 11 2

Pd. to Peter Taylor and Aaron Coppock for ass'ing the windows

0 9 0 0

Pd. to Robt. Finney and A. Coppock

1 10 3 0

and pd. into the new officers hands  
spent yt. night

0 5 0 0  
0 3 0 0

Examined by us inhabitants,

RALPH BAYLEY,  
AARON COPPOCK.

Leigh.

WM. NORRIS.

## Replies.

### DEGREES.

While in the main agreeing with the remarks of your correspondent "Portcullis" on degrees, I should

like to point out a slight slip in his article. The words "To be a knight or baronet est gradus, etc." are not Sir Edward Coke's, but a somewhat free translation of an extract from Sir Robert Brooke's "Grande Abridgement" (London, 1573, folio), part II, folio 8; title, "Nosme," § 33. Your correspondent doubtless took the words from the 6th edition of "Gullim's Heraldry" (London, 1724, folio), pp. 266, where they are given as in his article, and where they are ascribed to "Brooks in his abridgement of that case Nosman is Dignitie, 88." Of course "Nosman" stands for "Nosmes" (i.e., names), and the words "of that case" ought never to have been inserted, so the reference is glaringly inaccurate. In conclusion I would recommend to those who desire further information on these names of dignity, "Viner's Abridgement" (s.d. folio), title, "Nosmes," vol. 15, p. 596. H. A. THORNTON, Cambridge.

## Queries.

ANTIQUITY OF CHEESE-MAKING IN CHESHIRE.—The following extract is quoted from the editorial column in your paper of last week in reference to the antiquity of cheese-making:—"Cheshire retains its celebrity in cheese-making; the pride of its people in the superiority of its cheese may be gathered from a provincial song, published, with the music, about 1714, during the Spanish War, in the reign of George II." Is the song known to exist? It would be very interesting to most of your readers if it could be inserted in CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES.

Altrincham.

F. L. TAYLOR.

GEORGE HENRY PHILLIPS.—The death of Mr Phillips at Abbey-cum-bir, Radnorshire, has just been announced, and it is said he was a native of the county. We know that he was son of the late Francis Aspinall Phillips, of Bank Hall, Heaton North, and grandson of Francis Phillips, a well-known Manchester merchant. How came he to be a Radnorshire by birth? I presume that Mr Phillips was of the same family as Nathaniel and John Phillips, who something more than a hundred years ago commenced business at Manchester as smallware manufacturers, and that Mark Phillips, once member of Parliament for Manchester, was of his kindred? Were the Phillipses Welsh descent? There is a history in stones; a more interesting one in men, who making their way in the world leave marks behind them which can never destroy. Among the many men who helped to make Manchester what she is, her merchants and manufacturers must always occupy a foremost place. The men of this class, who in early days helped

onwards, lived and had their being in their warehouses and on change, and then death stepped in to take them away, so that the places they dwelt in knew no more of them for ever. And yet their remembrance remains and is recorded upon the page of history, and when, as in this instance, a descendant of theirs dies and we see a short record of his departure in a newspaper, it is fitting that we should try and look back

to records of his ancestors, and then see if there is not a life story to tell which may be trusted to useful account for posterity. Twenty-six years ago Mr Phillips was high sheriff of his county, then a young man of thirty summers. What is the link that bound Radnorshire, Heaton Norris, and Manchester in the history of his family?

A CHESHIRE ANTIQUARY.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

The buildings on the south side of Little Underbank, from the Queen's Head to the Grapes Inn, have undergone great alterations during the last 60 years. Adjoining the Queen's Head were several dingy looking shops with bow windows. The last in the row was occupied by Mr Holme, druggist, father to the late Mr Holme, of Wellington-road North, late head of the Stockport Post Office. This shop attracted my notice more than the rest by there being in the window three large globular glass bottles, each filled with a liquid of a different colour. Messrs Chapman and Watts's large establishment now occupies the site of those shops. Adjoining Mr Holme's was an esplanade or yard which fronted Mr Northcliffe's gingham and check warehouse. Mr Foggitt's printing works are now in a portion of Mr Northcliffe's late warehouse. The next building to the yard was occupied by Mr Stringer, grocer. I don't know anything of the Stringer family more than that they were an old Stockport family, and at one time were numerous in Stockport, where their name is still perpetuated. The site of the Vernon Park and its surroundings at one time were called Stringer's field. The weir crossing the river Goyt is still known as Stringer's weir. There is also a Stringer-street off Newbridge-ane. Mr Stringer, grocer, so I have been told, owned considerable property in the neighbourhood of the Underbank at one time. The next premises of Mr Stringer's were occupied very many years ago by Mr Joseph Rayner, druggist.

The Rayner family, which consisted of father and mother, three sons, and several daughters, once resided in the large house adjoining the Grapes Inn, in the Underbank. The sons' names were Joseph, the druggist, John and William, both medical practitioners. I did not know the daughter's

names, but one of them became the wife of Mr Deakin, a well-known lawyer in Stockport. My first connection with this family was under rather painful circumstances to myself. As stated before, I was born in the house next door to Mr John Appleby's grocery warehouse, and nearly opposite to Mr Thomas Steel's cotton mill in Chester-gate. My mother was a weaver at Steel's mill up to the time of my being about five years old. As soon as I could well walk and saw the mill gates open, I often toddled across the road and went in the mill to my mother. It was customary in most of the mills at that time to weave with wet weft. It was so in Mr Steel's mill. A few yards from my mother's looms was a cistern partially filled with soap suds, the top of which was level with the room floor. The weavers' cops were packed in tins perforated with holes, and then the tin was put into these soap suds. The overlooker, William Cope, had been emptying the cistern of cops, and I stood watching him. He went to deliver the cops to the weavers, and as soon as his back was turned I commenced to slide on the slippery floor, and in doing so I had the misfortune to slide into the cistern. I remember nothing more of this mishap but what I gathered from my mother afterwards. No one saw the affair happen, but when the overlooker came for some more cops he saw my feet protruding out of the soap suds. He instantly pulled me out of the cistern and pronounced me to be dead.

Joseph Rayner at this time had a wide-spread fame for curing all diseases that children were heir to, and the mothers round about Chester-gate never thought of taking their children when ailing to anyone else. When I was rescued from the cistern and pronounced to be dead, my mother's instinct came to her aid. Instead of tearing her hair and bemoaning the loss of her boy, she instantly wrapt me in her shawl and ran with me to Mr Joseph Rayner's shop. Under that gentle-

man's care I soon became well again, and I don't think my soap sud posset did me much harm. Mr Joseph Rayner was a person of lively temperament, he was fond of a little gossip, and was often seen chatting with people at his shop door. He was also erratic, and rather fond of change. No one seemed to be doing better in his business as a chemist.

One of the first alterations that took place amongst those dingy old shops in the Underbank was to gut and re-front one or two of them, and make them into a bank. One Mr Smyth was the manager. He had a daughter who became the second wife of Mr John Vaughan, one of our leading lawyers, who at one time was the town clerk of Stockport. This bank had a short reign; it was carried on but a few years.

After the closing of this establishment the premises were tenantless for a short time. It was during this epoch in the history of Stockport that ale drinking vaults were first introduced into Stockport. The Pack Horse, in Higher Hillgate, then kept by Mr Cox, who hailed from Manchester, was one of the first of this kind of drinking places started in Stockport. Mr Cox made his vault as attractive as possible, by the introduction of several extra entrances, the enlargement of the windows, and by placing over the principal entrance in the Hillgate a large lamp, which has caused this publichouse to be known as the "Big Lamp" ever since. This vault business was a financial success to Mr Cox, and a number of other publicans soon had vaults attached to their premises. Mr Joseph Rayner well knew that ale and porter were more palatable to the human frame than physic; and seeing others prospering by trafficking in drink he concluded to embark in the same trade. At a considerable cost he caused this disused bank to be remodelled and fitted up in a grand style, and converted into a vault for the sale of ale and porter, and he christened the premises the Tiger Vaults. After a certain time Mr Rayner got tired of his new business. At a greater cost he had these premises again remodelled and beautified, both internally and externally, and converted into a vault for the sale of wines only. He caused a representation of the vine leaf to be painted on the outside wall, over the entrance, on a gigantic scale. It was painted by Mr Roach, a clever artist, who was then residing in Stockport. Mr Rayner re-christened these premises the "Vine Leaf." This representation of the vine leaf was considered at the time a grand piece of workmanship, and was

greatly admired as such by the artists of Stockport and the public at large. I often thought myself that it was in the wrong place, and worthy of a better situation. I never knew or heard of Mr Joseph Rayner mixing with politics; I believe few people knew what his views were on public questions. He gained for himself a widespread fame in another cause. During Mr Rayner's prosperity many strikes, turnouts, and disputes took place in Stockport between the masters and the operatives. During these strifes Mr Rayner invariably coincided with the workpeople. He encouraged them in every possible way, by paying a large weekly stipend to the relief fund, and by paying the delegates' expenses for collecting in other towns. When the collections have run short, Mr Rayner has lent the committees large sums of money, which were never refunded. For these kind acts to the operatives he received nothing but the grossest ingratitude. I was told that he nearly ruined himself by pampering these turnouts time after time. This deluded kind-hearted man married a widow lady (Mrs Stitfall) in his declining years, and went to reside in retirement in the neighbourhood of Greek-street. I intend resuming my remarks on the Rayner family in my next paper.

Stockport.

JOHN GREENHALGH

#### WARBURTON.

Warburton is a straggling village and parish four miles W.N.W. from Altrincham, and two miles from Lymn, Cheshire. It contains 1747 acres of land, and in 1881 had 89 houses and 436 inhabitants. The river Bollin separates this township from Lymn, and the river Mersey forms its northern boundary. At the Domesday Survey the manor was in moieties, held by the Baron of Halton and Robert Tison. In the reign of Richard Cœur de Lion Adam de Dutton became possessor of both moieties, one in the right of his wife and the other with a moiety of Lymn Manor by gift from John (?) Lacey, the honoured constable of Chester, who, in 1128, by collecting and arming a number of fiddlers and disorderly people assembled at Chester fair, rescued Ranulph Earl of Chester from his incarceration at Rhuddlan Castle. In the thirteenth century Peter Dutton, knight, assumed the name of Warburton, and until the reign of Henry VII. the Warburtons resided here. In 1495 Sir Peter Warburton, who had built Arley Hall, removed his family residence from Warburton to Arley, where his descendants continued in an interrupted succession until the death of Sir Peter Warburton in 1513, when the family in the male line became extinct. However the estates were vested in trust for the use of Rowland Eyles Egerton Warburton, who is now owner of the whole parish.

ITS NAME.

There is little doubt that in this place name is conserved the name of the daughter of Wulfere, King of Mercia—viz., the holy virgin Saint Werburg—whose feast was celebrated on the 16th day of June—which by the addition of "ton" (Anglo-Saxon enclosure) is formed Werburgton, and the coat of arms of Peter Warburton, in 1406, were circumscribed S. GALFRIDI-DE-WARBURGTONE. From the above it is inferred that Warburton means "the enclosure of St. Werburg," and historical fact bears out such conclusion, as is seen in the following relative to the monastery.

THE MONASTERY.

It appears there was a monastery here of Præmonstatention canons dedicated to S. Werburg, which existed in the twelfth century, when Adam de Dutton gave by deed a moiety of the manor to the canons of S. Werburg, at Werburgton; and the same deed speaks of John, son of Adam de Dutton, being buried in the monastery of Werburgton. When it was founded is not known, neither was it of long duration, for about 1190 it was merged in the Abbey of Cokersand, in Lancashire, an abbey of Præmonstatention canons.

THE ABBEY CROFT.

The site of the residence of the canons at Werburgton, it may be inferred, was a short distance from the present church, on the west side, and near the bank of the river, as a field here still retains the name Abbey Croft.

THE CROSS.

A little N.E. of the Abbey Croft may be seen the remains of the cross, enclosed by sandstone flags raised on end. From it the monks of the monastery would teach the people, for learning in olden time was confined principally to religious establishments, or around it produce would be sold or bartered. Transfers of land or agreements which required attesting were brought to the foot of the cross for signatures; those unable to write obtained witness to their mark, which invariably was the mark of a cross. It may be this cross was erected to commemorate a first preaching of the Gospel; if so, what story gathers around it from thence to the time of John Wesley, who, it is said, stood here and preached the "good news" with well-known eloquence to the wondering villagers.

THE CHURCH.

The church, situated on the south bank of the river Mersey, is a venerable fabric dedicated to Saint Werburg, and judging from outward appearance has undergone various restorations. The north wall, probably the oldest part of the present edifice is of considerable antiquity, being composed of frame-work and plaster; it contains a very low doorway now built up, but which forty years ago was entered by descending steps. The south wall, built of sandstone,

probably obtained from Lymm quarries, bears the date 1645. The ivy mantled tower of brick, marked 1753, is exceptionally built at the east end of the church. It has not a clock in it, nor does it appear to have been built to receive one; it contains only one bell, whose inscription I could not satisfactorily decipher, query 1575. About the east and west end there is nothing of particular interest. Inside the church comprises nave, chancel, and side aisles. Entering by the studded oaken door at the west end—though there remaineth not a vestige of the old gallery nor a single rush to show how the poor carpeted the floor of the high backed pews in which they were privileged to sit—the low dark roof and the wooden pillars of the nave immediately convince us of its antiquity. About ten years ago, under the judicious care and liberality of Mr R. E. E. Warburton, the church was re-seated. A window of stained glass now ornaments the chancel, and an organ in the south transept pours forth the hymns of praise.

On a brass on the south wall is the following reference:—

The date which a stone 1645 this building bore,  
Till weathered by time and the winds of heaven  
Was graven above on the wall once more,  
One thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven.

On a brass in the chancel is inscribed:—

Subtus inhumatur corpus  
docti pique viri Richardi  
Grimshey, mediet de Lym  
Cum Warburton. Rectoris.  
qui 1 mo. die Febru, a'no  
1669, ætatis sue 67o  
placide in Xto, obdormivit.

There is also an ancient stone font with this inscription:—

William Drinkwater, the keeper.

Its wooden cover is dated 1595. It is said a family of the name of Drinkwater resided in Warburton for many generations, several of whose members became eminent soldiers.—*Ormerod*.

THE CHURCHYARD.

In the churchyard of Saint Werburg a yew tree, calculated to have been planted five hundred years, stands as a relic of Saxon Christianity. There is also a sun-dial dated 1765. The oldest legibly-marked gravestone bears the date 1606, but certainly this was a burial ground long anterior. On the north side of the church, August 9, 1816, were three coffin-shaped gravestones level with the surface and partly covered with grass. 1st: Seven feet long, ornamented with a cross fleury, having two branches at the sides and a head formed by four lozenges joined by stalks in the form of a cross. 2nd: Only three feet long, and quite plain. 3rd: Eight feet long, quite plain, rose to a ridge like the roof of a house. The lid was of red sandstone and the coffin part of white freestone. This

may still be seen near the church tower on the north side. Upon examination, one contained an entire skeleton, and ashes were seen in the others. In all probability they represented interments from the ancient monastic establishments.

Of the Rectory and the moated site of Warburton Hall I have nothing to say, but trust that some of my readers will supply this deficiency, subscribe matters of interest by me omitted, and correct, if necessary, for it is ten years since my notes were first taken. In the transcription error may have crept in. And has there not been a new church built since then—1877? Still there are two expressions current in Warburton and neighbourhood to which I must not omit reference before conclusion. The first is to assign Warburton colloquially as "Johnny Jerusalem's land." I know not why, but Sir Peter Leycester says: "John Lacey, of Chester, granted the second moiety of Warburton to Adam de Dutton, on the condition of his granting it to the Prior and Convent of St. John of Jerusalem, under whom it was held by him and his posterity." May not this explain the matter? The second is often used as an intimidation: "I'll pull you Lymn from Warburton." Did this arise with the severance of the Warburton living from its mediety of Lymn? The words of institution and induction of the parson are: "Ad liberam capellam de Warburton et medietatem rectorie ecclesie de Limme," so that Warburton hath

the gift of half of Lymn as well as Warburton wholly. The living is now entirely separated from Lymn, for by Order in Council, December 11, 1869, Warburton was erected to an independent parish, and the Rev. D. Augustus Beaufort, M.A., was the first rector of Warburton after the severance. Again, the "old folk" talk of Warburton people being exempt from all market tolls in the kingdom, and also of Warburton once being a place of refuge to which offenders fled for safety, and deplore that these privileges were lost at the building of the iron bridge which now connects it with Lancashire. It would be interesting to learn more of these things, and I trust some learned antiquary may condescend to recite through CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES the history of this primitive and historically interesting township.

Bristol.

JAMES BOWLAND.

## Queries.

EARDSWICK HALL FARM, CHURCH MINSHULL.—Can any reader of CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES, versed in county history, inform me if Eardswick Hall Farm ever belonged to anyone of the name of Yorall, say perhaps 100 years ago; or can you inform me if ever it was in Chancery?

CONSTANT READER.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1886.

## Notes.

### A GRIM RECORD OF THE OLD CHESTER GAOL.

The following particulars respecting the executions at Chester during the past hundred years is, with additions and corrections, taken from the *Chester Chronicle*.

A friend has kindly compiled the following record of hangings in Chester, partly from an old manuscript list, but principally from the entries made by the sheriffs (who formerly had to attend to the hanging business personally), which are preserved at the Town Hall. The list is further remarkable as showing the changes which have come over public sentiment, there being no longer any hanging for arson, indecent outrages upon children, or cutting and wounding with intent. The old practice of conveying the prisoner in an open cart is also wholly discontinued:—

1790, September 2. John Dean of Stockport executed for the murder of his wife, his remains subsequently being hung in chains on Stockport Moor.

1809, May 6. George Glover and William Proctor, for shooting at an officer of Excise at Odd Rode.

1810, May 2. John Done, for the murder of Billy Eckersley, at Lymm.—Oct. 10. Smith and Clarke.

1812, June 10. Temple and Thompson, for taking part in the Luddite riots at Stockport.

—August 24. John Lomas, for the murder of Mr. Morrey, at Hankelow.

1813, April 23. Edith Morrey, for the murder of her husband.—June 26. William Wilkinson, James Yarwood, and William Burgess, for a rape on Mary Porter, Weston Point.

1814, May 28. William Wilkinson, for arson at Offerton, near Stockport.

1815, April 22. Griffith and Wood, for burglary near Stockport.

1817. Joseph Allen, for uttering a forged note.—After condemnation he took nothing but water for six days.

1818, May 9. Abraham Rosters and Isaac Moxon, for burglary.—September 26. John Moor, for burglary.

1819, May 8. John Walker, for robbing his master.—September 25, Samuel Hooley and John Johnson, a black, for burglary at Bowdon.

1820, April 15. Jacob McGuinness, for shooting W. Birch at Stockport; Thomas Miller, for burglary; Robert Ellis, for burglary; and William Realing, for arson.

1821, May 5. Samuel Mealy, for highway robbery at Stockport.

1822, May 5. William Tongue, of Stockport, convicted at the last April Assizes for carnally knowing and abusing a woman child, under the age of ten years, and George Groom, of a highway robbery, were both executed this day. Messrs John Johnson and John Gardner, sheriffs. Note: Tongue and Groom were removed in a covered cart to the House of Correction through Linenhall-street at five o'clock this morning, and were executed at one o'clock afternoon previous.

J. F.—1822, September 14. Thos. Brierley convicted at the last Autumn Assizes for a highway robbery, executed this day. Messrs John Johnson and John Gardner, sheriffs. Note: He was removed from the county gaol as Tongue and Groom were, except that he was taken down to the Watergate, and through the city gaol; the cart was not covered as before J. F.

1823, April 14. Samuel Fallows, convicted at the present assizes of the wilful murder of Betty Shawcross at Stockport, was executed this day, and afterwards delivered to the surgeons of the Chester Infirmary to be dissected. Messrs W. Davenport and Edward Ducker, sheriffs. Note: Samuel Fallows was removed from the county gaol this morning at five o'clock in an open cart, and was executed about one o'clock. S. F.—John Cragan, alias John Carogan, convicted at the last assizes for the county of a rape at Stockport upon a woman child, of the name of Jemina Ward, under the age of ten years, executed this day. Messrs William Davenport and Edward Ducker, sheriffs. Note: Cragan was removed from the county gaol this morning at five o'clock in an open cart, and was executed about one o'clock. Note: Cragan was sentenced to be executed on Saturday, 26th April ulto., but was respited for 14 days from the day appointed for his execution, doubt being entertained as to the 14 days; the recorder was consulted, when he was of opinion that 14 days from the day appointed for his execution was this day; the 10th May. S. F.

1823, September 13. Edward Clarke, convicted at the last assizes for the county of Chester, of a highway robbery at Stockport, executed. Messrs William Davenport and Edward Ducker, sheriffs. Note: Clarke was removed at the time and in the manner the five preceding persons were. S. F.

1824, April 21. Joseph Dale, convicted at the last Autumn Assizes of the murder of William Wood, at Disley, and sentenced at the present Spring Assizes,

was executed this day about twelve o'clock. Messrs Jonathan Colley and George Walker, sheriffs. Note: Dale was removed at five o'clock this morning, and in the manner the six preceding prisoners were.

1826, April 26. Abraham Stones, convicted at the last city sessions for a highway robbery, was executed this day. (Same day) Phillip McGowen, convicted at the last assizes for a highway robbery, was also executed this day. William Grace and Simeon Leet, sheriffs of the City of Chester. Note: Both these persons were ordered for execution on Saturday, the 22nd April inst., but were respited until this day upon a representation made to the Secretary of State, in London, of the death of Mr William Bevin, late one of the sheriffs, which happened on the 15th April, and after the warrants were delivered for the execution. Mr Leet elected sheriff on Friday, the 21st April. Wm. Edwards.

1826, August 26. John Green, convicted at the last assizes for the county of Chester of burglary, executed this day. Messrs Wilkinson Grace and Simeon Leet, sheriffs. Green was removed at the time and in the manner the former persons were. J. F. M.

1829, May 9. John Lea, (otherwise called John Lier, otherwise called John Lear, convicted at the last assizes of burglary, and John Proudlove, of highway robbery, executed this day. Messrs Thomas Bowers and John Allender, sheriffs of the City of Chester.

1829, September 26. John Henshall, for shooting at the Earl of Stamford's gamekeeper, and Joseph Woodhouse, for a rape on his daughter, were executed this day, at half-past twelve o'clock, at the west point of the city gaol. Messrs Thomas Bowers and George Allender, sheriffs. Note: The convicts were conveyed in an open cart from the county to the city gaol at a quarter before five this morning. J. F. M.

1832, May 12. James Cumberledge, for arson, executed this day at twelve o'clock; half-past twelve o'clock turned off. Richard Palin and Richard Philipot, sheriffs.

1834, April 7. Samuel Thorley, convicted at the present assizes for the murder, at Leftwich, of Mary Pemberton, was executed this day at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock. Mr George Eaton and Mr Joseph Ridgway, sheriffs. Note: Samuel Thorley was conveyed in an open cart from the county to the city gaol at five o'clock this morning. The body of Samuel Horley was returned to the county for interment within the precincts of the castle gaol pursuant to the sentence.

1834, April 19. John Carr, convicted at the last assizes for the county for feloniously stabbing; Thomas Riley, convicted at the same assizes for feloniously cutting at Stockport; William Naylor, convicted at the same assizes for feloniously shooting; James



Mason, convicted at the same assizes for feloniously attempting to procure the miscarriage of a woman at Marple were severally executed this day. N.B. The criminals were taken to the cart at the county goal door, received by the sheriffs at Glover's stone, they were conveyed in the usual manner and brought to this goal by the passage and through the gate in the yard at the south side.

1834, "Hanged between Chester and Cheshire" might be the heading of the next paragraph, extracted from an old M.V. diary of the time: Joseph Mosley, aged 34, and James Gar-side, aged 35, for the wilful murder of Mr Thomas Ashton, of Werneth, Cheshire, were executed at Horse-monger-lane Goal on Tuesday, Nov. 25th, 1834, in consequence of a dispute between the sheriffs of the county and the city of Chester as to whose duty it was to see the execution done. The prisoners were respited from the trial to the present time. On the 15th of November they were taken to London in the custody of Mr Dunstan, constable of Chester Castle, and arrived at the Bailey on Sunday evening. They were brought up twice to the King's Bench, and sentenced to be executed on Tuesday, November 25, 1834. The sheriff of Horse-monger-lane was named Chester, and the hangman's name was Cheshire, so these two men were after all hung between Chester and Cheshire."

## Replies.

### THE ADLINGTON MURDER IN 1848

#### *Concluded.*

The execution of Bates is thus recorded in the *Chester Courant* of April 25, 1848:—

The execution of William Bates, for the murder of William Wyatt, at Adlington, took place in front of the City Goal at Chester, on Saturday morning last, at eight o'clock. We stated in our last number that since the condemnation of the unhappy man and his fellow-convict, John Mawdesley, they had received the unremitting attention of the Rev. E. Carbery, the Roman Catholic priest, of this city; and that under his instruction, that savage ferocity which so lamentably characterised Bates previous to and during his trial had been dissipated, and a state of mind induced much more befitting his awful position. Mawdesley also gave indication of penitence highly satisfactory to his reverend attendant, but as he was of a totally different temperament to his fellow convict, the change in his feelings was neither so remarkable nor so conspicuous as in his companion. These dispositions of mind continued to characterise both the prisoners up to the period of their final separation.

We also stated last week that an attempt was then being made to save both the convicts from the fearful doom which awaited them by memorialising Her Majesty, through the

Home Secretary, for a commutation of the capital sentence; and so far as Mawdesley is concerned the application has no doubt been successful. On Thursday morning a communication was received by Mr Dunstan, the Governor of Chester Castle, containing a respite for Mawdesley during her Majesty's pleasure, which amounts virtually to a reprieve; but a similar interposition of the Royal prerogative had not been extended to Bates. Immediately on the receipt of this communication the convicts were made acquainted with its contents. Mawdesley received the intelligence with the utmost gratitude. He has several times since his condemnation expressed the most ardent wishes that his life might be spared, and now that his desire was realised he gave utterance to sentiments indicative of grateful thankfulness. Bates, on the other hand, received the information without betraying any particular emotion, beyond an expression of satisfaction that the life of his companion in crime was saved. He seems to have acted since his condemnation under the influence of the feeling which prompted him to say to Mr Justice Williams, after sentence of death had been pronounced upon him, "Well, my lord, I'll die cheerfully;" for not only did he never intimate a wish that his life might be spared, but he several times distinctly stated his preference that the sentence should be carried into effect.

A day or two after the condemnation of the unhappy men a statement was volunteered by Mawdesley that he, and not Bates, was the actual murderer of William Wyatt. This appears to have been the object which Bates wished to impress upon the jury when he was examining the pistols and bullets at the trial; but from the clumsy way in which he conducted his cross-examination, after he had taken his case out of the hands of the learned counsel who defended him—an impression the very reverse of what he intended was made on the minds of all who heard that trial. The statement above referred to having been several times repeated by Mawdesley, when the respite for the prisoner arrived the chaplain of the Castle felt it incumbent on himself to make a representation to, and, if possible, have an interview with the Home Secretary on the subject. He accordingly wrote to the Governor, informing him that as the Royal clemency had been extended to one, who, according to his own confession, was the most guilty of the two, he should in all probability proceed by the train that evening to London, to represent the matter in the proper quarter. In the course of the day the chaplain received back again his letter enclosed in another, from Sir Edward Walker, who has taken the most active interest in the fate of both the convicts, requesting Mr Joseph to act immediately upon the opinion expressed in his letter to the Governor, and forwarding £5 from Sir Edward to defray the expense of his humane mission. Mr Joseph accordingly proceeded to London by one of the evening trains, and called at the Home Office about eight on Friday morning. Sir George Grey was then engaged, but ten o'clock was appointed for an interview. At that hour he met the Home Secretary, to whom he detailed the object of his journey, and especially the statement of Mawdesley, that his was the hand that fired the fatal pistol, imploring if there was anything in the case on which he could consistently with his public duty found a recommendation to the Royal mercy, he would avail himself of it. Sir George paid the greatest attention to the observations of the chaplain, and at their close produced the judge's notes of the trial, which he went over and commented upon as he proceeded. He then informed the chaplain that he was as desirous as he (Mr Joseph) could possibly be to save the life of Bates if there

was anything in the case which would justify it; but that although Mawdesley had made a statement as to himself being the actual murderer, yet that upon the evidence it did not appear that credulity was due to such a statement. Sir George also commented upon the conduct of Bates at the trial, and expressed his sorrow that he could not, under the circumstances of the case, recommend him to her Majesty's mercy. Mr Joseph offered to remain in London and wait upon Sir George again if it were possible that further consideration might be favourable to Bates, but the rev. gentleman was informed that his further stay was unnecessary. The chaplain accordingly returned to Chester by the express train on Friday night, a number of persons having collected to wait his arrival, and to whom he was sorry he could not be the harbinger of more welcome intelligence.

Since his condemnation Bates has been several times visited by a young woman who is stated to be his wife, and who has for some time been in lodgings in this city. She has two children living by Bates, and will very shortly be the mother of a third. We have not heard that anything remarkable occurred at the interviews. Up to the return of Mr Joseph from London, she entertained the most sanguine expectation that Bates would be reprieved; and it is said that although all hope appeared then extinct, she confidently stated in the neighbourhood where she lodged that a Government messenger would arrive in the morning in time to prevent the execution. The last interview between Bates and Mawdesley took place about half-past seven on Friday night—half an hour previous to the removal of the former from the Castle. The interview, as may be presumed, was an affecting one, although little was said. Bates seemed inclined to enter in conversation, but Mawdesley did not evince a similar disposition, and after a short interview the two convicts shook each other cordially by the hand, and parted to meet no more on earth. Previous to leaving the Castle, Bates expressed his grateful thanks to Mr Dunstan, the governor, the Rev. H. S. Joseph, the chaplain, and the other officers of the gaol, for the kindness they had always shown him.

At midnight, the City Sheriff (Mr Trevor), with a body of police, repaired to the Castle to receive the convict from the county authorities. Bates prepared for removal without much emotion, and took his place in the cart, provided by the executioner, with the Rev. E. Carbery. They then proceeded to the City Gaol, accompanied by about 200 spectators, who had assembled to witness the removal. On arrival at the gaol, the prisoner and Mr Carbery immediately recommenced their spiritual duties. The chains and fetters were taken off Bates by order of the superintendent of police, which considerably relieved him, and being thus free and unfettered with the rev. gentleman, any unnecessary distraction of mind during his devotions was prevented. For this favour we are desired to express the thanks of Mr Carbery to the superintendent of police; as well as to the sheriff and to Mr Hostage (the under sheriff) for their excellent arrangement in preventing the annoyance of curious persons during the solemn season of devotion. Being thus left alone with the condemned man, and subject to no interruption, Mr Carbery states the arrangement was attended with very beneficial results. The devotions were continued until the hour of execution; with the exception of an interruption for a short period about five o'clock, when both Mr Carbery and the prisoner took some tea and biscuit together.

A few minutes before eight, the sheriff gave the usual notice to prepare for execution, which was received by Bates with the same fortitude as had been manifested by him throughout. He quietly submitted to be pinioned; and after the closing prayer followed Mr Carbery with a firm step to the fatal platform, calling aloud to Heaven for mercy. After the rope had been adjusted, a moment or two was spent in prayer, and a final farewell was taken of the unfortunate man by the rev. gentleman and the executioner. The fatal bolt was then drawn, the platform fell, and death ensued almost without a struggle. The body, after hanging the usual time, was cut down and removed to the castle, where it was interred a short distance from the spot where Thorley was buried; may we hope (to use the language of the rev. gentleman whose attentions to Bates had been so assiduous and self-denying) "that the unfortunate man has received, through the merits of his Redeemer, that pardon and mercy which he so fervently and continually implored."

We may here state that on Friday last the Rev. Mr Carbery caused both Bates and Mawdesley to make declarations in the presence of Sir B. S. Walker, Mr Dunstan, and himself, as to their guilt of a highway robbery near Manchester, for which two innocent men, O'Brien and Conolly, are now in Kirkdale Gaol, under sentence of transportation for fifteen years. The declarations have been forwarded to the Secretary of State, and they are expected to result in a pardon to the parties who have been convicted. As a clue has been obtained which may lead to the recovery of the stolen property, it may not be advisable just now to mention more particulars; but they will not be long withheld, as it is not improbable that an order for the liberation of the innocent men may this week be communicated.

#### DISPOSAL OF THE WYATT FUND.

The distribution of this fund, which reached the handsome sum of £1600, took place at Macclesfield, on Wednesday, June 7th, 1848. The first award was that of £1 each to 18 individuals who had assisted in the pursuit of the murderers—they were the first who were called into the room. Their names are James Schofield, James Braddock, John Wright, Joseph Snape, Richard Leigh, Thomas Butterworth, John Kirk, George Barton, Thomas Braddock, J. Hough, Robert Mason, Samuel Brindley, James Lindop, James Jepson, Joshua Harrison, John Crain, Henry Shatwell, and Samuel Pott. The parties were informed that the amount had been placed to their credit at the savings' bank, in the hope that it would form the nucleus for further deposits, each person being presented with a pass book. The individuals next called in, and to whom, after suitable prefatory remarks, awards were made, were John Arden, Joseph Jepson, John Hunt, and Matthew Mitchell, to each £15; and Stephen Sheldons, James Vere, and M. Wainwright, £20 each. It was explained that those who had £15 awarded had previously received, by order of the judge at the assizes, £5 each, and it was on that account that the committee had not given them so large a sum as the others; it was not because they did not equally appreciate their services. Several of the parties, on withdrawing, expressed in warm terms their grati-

tude to the committee and subscribers. Mr John Henshall, of Adlington, was next introduced, to whom was presented a very handsome silver cup, bearing the following inscription:—

Presented to John Henshall, by the subscribers of the Wyatt Fund, in order to mark their admiration of his conduct in the pursuit and capture of two highway robbers on Feb. 11, 1848.

The presentation to Thomas Wyatt then took place, by Mr Joseph Jackson, of Manchester. He expressed his gratification in presenting him with an award in testimony of his gallant and intrepid conduct; and he had great pleasure in reflecting that the event had proved that, when the occasion required it, there were not wanting men to uphold the law, and preserve the peace of society. He (T. Wyatt) had lost a dear relative; and he might have shared the same fate himself. He deeply regretted the unfortunate termination of the pursuit, but he hoped that the unfortunate man was in a happier state, and that his family would be amply provided for. The testimonial to him (T. Wyatt), though last was not the least; and the committee could not speak too highly of his noble conduct. He now felt great pleasure in making his acquaintance, and he was sure the gentlemen present would entertain the same feeling. The committee had awarded him the sum of £400, including £10 appropriated for purchasing a clock, bearing a suitable inscription. The money had been placed in his name in the bank; it was at his own disposal, and he might use it as he thought proper. He had much pleasure in saying that his past character had been such that they felt no hesitation whatever in placing the money at his free disposal.

A discussion afterwards took place as to the provi-

sion for the widow of Wm. Wyatt. Mr Barton read the resolution which had been passed at a joint meeting of the Manchester and Macclesfield committees, which was to the effect that £1000 should be invested in trust for the widow and family. The meeting approved of the resolution, and it was explained that, owing to the peculiarities of the case, a large discretionary power would have to be left with the trustees. It was, therefore, desirable that the deed should be carefully drawn, and legal advice would be taken thereon. The trustees named were Thomas Townsend, Esq., treasurer of the Manchester committee; the Rev. William Pearson, Prestbury, treasurer of the Macclesfield committee; and the Rev. James Sumner, of Shrigley, or Geo. Swindells, Esq. Honourable mention was made of the manner in which the police force generally had contributed to the fund.

HISTORICS.

## Queries.

MONUMENTAL BRASSES IN CHURCHES.—Can any of your readers inform me at what churches in this neighbourhood there are ancient monumental brasses?

GEORGE H. SMITH.

ROBERT FARRER CHEETHAM.—I should be very glad if some of your readers could give me a pedigree of the Stockport poet, Robert Farrer Cheetham, who was a native of Stockport, and lived early this century I believe. What I want most particularly is, his mother's maiden name, and her forefathers as far back as you can get them.

R. KERSEAW.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1886.

## Notes.

### ANCIENT DEDICATIONS OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE CHURCHES.

The proposed area of Lancashire and Cheshire embraces three dioceses, viz., Chester, Manchester, and Liverpool. Formerly nearly the whole area was included in the diocese of Lichfield, afterwards in the diocese of Chester. In 1847 the diocese of Manchester was constituted, and in 1880 the diocese of Liverpool was constituted. As to date I have drawn the line at the close of the 17th century, so that all the churches referred to were built prior to A.D. 1700. While primarily dealing with the dedications it will be appropriate to give the numbers of such ancient churches and analyse

the periods of church building in these palatine counties. There are a few churches, such as Whalley, Winwick, Preston, Bunbury, Budworth, and St. John's, Chester, where we have distinct historical evidence that the church was founded in the seventh, eighth, ninth, or tenth centuries, but of course the principal remains of those periods is at best portions of the foundations. From the eleventh century downwards we are on clear, well determined lines. The figures I am now about to present include the parish churches, chapels of ease, which in many cases, as, e.g., Nantwich, given into parish churches, the domestic chapel, as, e.g., Tabley and Smithies, and the donations, as, e.g., Ellenbrook. Chester is placed first as being the oldest diocese.

## ANALYSIS OF CHURCH BUILDING.—DIOCESAN.

Centuries—	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th
Chester.....	2	2	2	6	15	16	33	21	15	19	10
Manchester...	2	2	2	3	14	19	22	6	7	35	9
Liverpool —	—	—	—	3	1	3	5	6	5	3	1
Total 289 churches.											

## ANALYSIS OF CHURCH BUILDING.—COUNTIES.

Centuries—	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th
Chester.....	2	2	2	6	15	16	33	21	15	19	10
Lancaster...	2	2	2	6	15	22	27	12	12	38	10
Total 289 churches.											

The 14th, 15th, and 17th centuries were periods of sleep and sloth, the 11th, 12th, 13th, and 16th were periods of activity, catching the stirring influences of the Norman and Reformation times. Before dealing with the dedications of these churches it will be well to remind the members (1) there are many churches where the original dedication is lost, quite unknown. This may arise from loss of documents, loss of interest, or the destroying influences of the Cromwellian period. (2) In many cases the ancient chapels of ease did not receive any dedication lest they draw away prestige from the parish church. Many of them have grown into parish churches as the population has increased. (3) The dedication of some ancient churches is in dispute, as Prestwich St. Mary v. St. Bartholomew, Alderley St. Mary v. St. Luke. (4) Some of the churches have more than one dedication, as, *e.g.*, St. Mary and St. Werberg—Warburton, and the Manchester Cathedral, dedicated to the B. V. Mary, St. George and St. Denys. (5) Some ancient dedications are ambiguous, *e.g.*, St. John, where in several cases we have nothing to guide us as to whether St. John Evangelist or St. John Baptist is referred to. The precise dedications to the Virgin Mary are in many instances lost (6) Some ancient dedications run in zones or groups in neighbourhoods. As an example, St. Leonard is honoured in Lancashire at Walton-le-dale, Balderstone, Padiham, Langho, Samlesbury, Downham, and Middleton. St. Oswald once in Lancashire, five times in Cheshire. St. Lawrence is not found in Cheshire, but four times in Lancashire (7) Some of the ancient dedications follow the coast line, as St. Nicholas and St. Cuthbert. (8) Outside Scripture saints there was in old days a strong desire to dedicate the church to the founder. St. Chad, St. Wilfrid, and others in this way have been much honoured.

I will now deal with the dedications of the ancient churches of Lancashire and Cheshire in classified order.

## I. Dedications referring to God.

Sacred Trinity .....	1	St. Saviour.....	2
Holy Trinity .....	4	Christ's Church .....	3

## II. Dedications referring to the Apostles.

St. John .....	4	St. James .....	15
St. Bartholomew .....	10	St. Thomas.....	2
St. Peter.....	11	St. Matthew .....	1
St. Andrew .....	4		

## III. Scripture dedications.

St. Michael .....	18	St. Stephen .....	3
St. Mary .....	48	St. Barnabas .....	1
St. Mary Magdalene ..	1	St. Michael and All	
St. John Baptist .....	4	Angels.....	1
St. Paul .....	3	St. Mary and St. James	1
St. Clement .....	1	St. Peter and St. Paul...	1
St. Luke.....	2		

## IV. Mixed dedications.

St. Mary and All Saints 1	St. Maryan 1	St. Werberg 1
St. Mary and St. Helen 1		

## V. General dedications.

All Saints .....	12	Holy Cross.....	1
All Hallows .....	1		

## VI. Historical dedications.

St. Chad .....	9	St. Thomas, Martyr.....	
St. Wilfrid .....	9	St. Elphin .....	1
St. Leonard .....	9	St. Werberg .....	1
St. Catherine.....	1	St. Bridget .....	2
St. Helen .....	3	St. Boniface .....	1
St. Nicholas .....	5	St. Martin .....	1
St. Cuthbert .....	4	St. Patrick .....	1
St. Denys .....	1	St. Alban .....	1
St. George .....	2	St. Olave .....	1
St. Anne.....	3	St. Bertoline .....	1
St. Lawrence.....	4	St. Hildebury .....	1
St. Eadmor .....	1	St. Edith.....	1
St. Margaret.....	1	St. Giles .....	1
St. Maxentius .....	1	St. Hilary .....	1
St. Oswald .....	5		

The 289 ancient churches represent a variety of 57 different dedications, and 48 of the churches are dedicated in honour of the Virgin Mary.

On the history, &c., of these 28 revered historical personages I desire to throw a few rays of light. As you will understand, short notices will be safest.

ST. CHAD, or Ceadda, died on March 2nd, A.D. 673. He was a man of very strong, influential Saxon character, who lived in Northumbria and filled the see of York; afterwards took up his headquarters at Lichfield, founding the cathedral dedicated to him. The traditions of St. Chad's presence in these parts of Lancashire, and the adjacent counties of Cheshire and Derbyshire, may be well founded, and can we wonder that churches copying the then diocesan church at Lichfield should be dedicated in his honour?

ST. WILFRID. He was a Saxon ecclesiastic contemporaneous with St. Chad. He died at Oundle,

Northampton, April 24th, 709. Oswi drew him into his kingdom to preach the Gospel, and for a long time he dwelt at the monastery at Ripon; continued in the present minster dedicated to St. Wilfrid. His remains were carefully removed to Canterbury Cathedral in the time of Archbishop Anselm.

**ST. LEONARD.** He was a French saint and hermit, who died in 559. A profusion of miracles are placed to his credit. It is a remarkable thing that the apprentices in the city of Worcester claimed through the corporation for many centuries a half holiday on St. Leonard's Day.

**ST. CUTHBERT.** He was associated with Ripon, Lindisfarne and N.E. coast, in the time of Oswald and Oswi; died March 20th, 687. The venerable Bede tells of miracles wrought at his tomb. The shrine became the nucleus, the foundation of Durham Cathedral, of which he is the patron saint.

**ST. DENYS.** He was a wonderfully pious French ecclesiastic, and to this day the patron saint of Paris. Our connections with the French throne, French princesses, and French wars would introduce the memories of St. Denys to this country. The Manchester Cathedral is dedicated to St. Denys appropriately, as the choir roof is a memorial of the French wars. At Stanford Church, in Berkshire, also dedicated to St. Denys, the end of the nave roof is ornamented with a heavy stone *fleur de lis*, instead of the usual cross.

**ST. GEORGE.** He is the patron saint of England, and of later years has been greatly honoured in the vast number of churches placed under his patronage.

**ST. LAWRENCE.** He comes before us as eminent for youthful piety, and was attached to the bishops of Rome. He was a martyr indeed, being roasted on a grid-iron during the Diocletian persecutions. At Ludlow and several other churches there is a representation of the saint in his last sufferings. Constantine built a church over his tomb, "St. Lawrence without the walls," and there are seven churches in Rome dedicated to him.

**ST. NICHOLAS.** This may be the eastern archbishop of Myra, flourishing about A.D. 430. His successor paid a visit some years ago to the Greek community in this city. I incline strongly to the belief that it is the Swedish saint Nicholas, of Lincopen, the patron of children, who flourished about A.D. 990. The interchange between Scan-

dinavia and our own shores would naturally spread the virtue of his name.

**ST. MAXENTIUS.** He was an abbot of Pricton, in France, who died A.D. 515. He was like King David, a "sweet psalmist and singer." French Royal marriages and French ecclesiastics would waft his memories to our isle.

**ST. EADMOR.** This is an old worthy I cannot *certainly* track. I think it is St. Eadbert, under a Scandinavian spelling, or a corrupt English spelling. St. Eadbert was St. Cuthbert's successor in the See of Lindisfarne, and, like him, spent long periods on lone islands in meditation. He was buried in St. Cuthbert's grave. The solitary dedication to St. Eadmor is in the Fylde country, and I think it very likely that as Lytham Parish Church is dedicated to St. Cuthbert, the smaller church at Admarah was dedicated to St. Eadbert, who, like St. Cuthbert, had so many sea-shore and island associates.

**ST. CATHARINE.** A famous saint of the Greek Church, greatly venerated in Russia.

**ST. HELEN.** She was wife of one Constanton, and mother of another Constantine. York and Colchester each claim to be her birth place. She died at Rome 328. A large cross was erected in Constantinople to her memory.

**ST. MARGARET.** This is the eminent Scotch Margaret, niece of Edward the Confessor, and wife of Malcolm, King of Scotland, who for a period ruled his country from Durham, where he resided. After an eminent life she was buried at Dunfermline Abbey, and her remains, with those of her husband, were later on placed in the Escorial at Madrid, which has recently received the remains of King Alfonso. The inscription is:—"Malcolm King and Margaret Queen of Scotland."

**ST. OSWALD,** King of Northumbria. Embraced Christianity. Was slain in battle towards the close of 7th century, some say at Winwick and others say at Oswestry. In any case the church, traditional palace, battle field, and well at Winwick attest the reality of the event. His remains and memory were held in remarkable veneration at Durham, Lindisfarne, York, and Chester.

**ST. THOMAS A BECKETT,** martyr. He was Archbishop of Canterbury; was murdered at the cathedral altar A.D. 1170. His offence was that he refused to crown King Henry II.

**ST. ELPHIN,** one of the first preachers of Christianity from Iona, who seems to have followed in

the track of King Oswald's associations, and is commemorated at Warrington.

**ST. MARTIN**, Bishop of Tours. Much venerated in France, and more than one great church has been erected to his memory. Martinmas has a place in our calendar, and is looked forward to by former boys and maids with interest.

**ST. PATRICK**, the patron saint of Ireland. His preaching and deeds are exceedingly well known everywhere.

**ST. ALBAN**, the proto-British martyr, who was put to death at St. Alban's during the Diocletian persecution in the 4th century. His shrine was found built into one of the arches of St. Alban's Abbey, and in restoring that magnificent structure the shrine has been restored to its original position, where the splendid stone carving and embellishments are seen to real advantage.

**ST. BONIFACE**, an English monk, who, with the sanction of Pope Gregory II., helped largely to the spreading of Christianity and encouragement of agriculture in Germany during the 7th century.

**ST. BRIDGET**, an Irish saint, who flourished in the 8th century. She has left a deep impression on the lore of Ireland.

**ST. GILES** flourished in his native country of Wales in the 8th century, and after a long stay in France he established schools of learning in Pembrokeshire.

**ST. HILARY**, one of the Gallic bishops of the 5th century, who made a deep impression by his firmness in resisting the Roman Emperor.

**ST. BERTOLINE**. I am not sure that I trace this worthy. The relics of *St. Behtlin*, 6th century, were preserved at Stafford, and he is the patron saint of the town, not a long distance from the part of Cheshire where the dedication occurs.

**ST. EDITH**. She was daughter of King Edgar. After spending her life in kindness to the poor and works of charity, she was buried at *Wilton*, in Herefordshire, with every honour.

**ST. HILDEBURG**. She appears, so far as I can make out, to have been a member of the Northumbrian royal family, and made a good name for herself in France and North of England during the 7th century.

**ST. OLAVE**. As King of Norway he delivered the Norse people from the Danes and Swedes, and then came over to England to help Ethelred, in 1015, to resist Gweyn's Danish invasion. He prepared a

code of good laws applicable to Orkney and Shetland and the Isle of Man. Dronthum Cathedral was built in his honour.

**ST. WERBERG**. She was daughter of Wulfere, King of Mercia, who died at Trentham, and was buried at Hanley, in Staffordshire. By favour of Alfred the Great her remains were removed to Chester in A.D. 875. The shrine of St. Werberg forms the base of the bishop's throne in Chester Cathedral.

Beyond the original intention the practice of church dedication has pleasantly conserved many historical associations.

The agiographist revels in the ecclesiastical records which dedications have handed down to us. To the antiquarian they open out an avenue for research, and it must be useful as well as interesting from time to time to turn up the mould of such rich quaint memories.

Manchester

S. E. HAWORTH.

#### HISTORICAL NOTES ON CHESHIRE.

##### II.

**HENRY BOOTH, LORD DELAMERE**, was one of the many "chiefs" among Cheshire men who adventured much in very troublous times to sustain the principles of civil and religious liberty. We need not go into the story of his life, for most of your readers will know it thoroughly; but he was charged in the year 1685 with abetting the western insurrection, and so much was he hated and feared by James the Second that he determined to have him tried for his life, and to make his chance of escape less likely he entered into a scheme with Jeffreys whereby Lord Delamere should be charged with his offence before a High Commission Court, and not before the House of Peers.

The King appointed Jeffreys Lord High Steward to preside over the court, and he was thus enabled to select the "triers" who were to sit with him as a sort of jury to pronounce upon the facts, reserving to himself the determination of all legal points. All the members of the court were vehemently opposed to Delamere in politics, and fifteen of them were colonels of regiments, who could be removed from their commands by the Sovereign if they ran counter to his will. Six of the remaining fifteen held offices in the Court, and the remaining nine were bound up with it by interest and otherwise, and it will, therefore, be seen how unfairly this nobleman was being treated by his arch enemy, the King. Jeffreys himself owed the noble lord a grudge, for when he sat in Parliament as member for his county he had complained in the House of Commons that the dearest interests of his constituents had been placed in jeopardy by the conduct of a "drunken

Jack-pudding," meaning Jeffreys, who was then Chief Justice of Chester. Lord Macaulay, when dwelling upon this incident in his *History of England*, says:—

The principal witness for the prosecution, a miscreant named Saxton, who had been concerned in the rebellion, and who was now labouring to earn his pardon by swearing against all who were obnoxious to the Government, was proved by overwhelming evidence to have told a series of falsehoods. All the triers, from Churchill, who, as Junior Baron, spoke first, up to the Treasurer, pronounced on their honour that Delamere was not guilty. . . . The King, who was present, was unable to complain of a decision evidently just, went into a rage with Saxton, and vowed that the wretch should first be pilloried before Westminster Hall for perjury, and then be sent down to the west to be hanged, drawn, and quartered.

The miraculous escape of this brave and honest man gave great satisfaction to the public, and his acquittal leaves a mark upon the page of our history, the nature of which may be gathered from a passage out of a letter of Lady Rachael Russell, which is to follow. This eminent lady, whose touching story will live for all time, was at the moment living in strict retirement, sorrowing over the murder of her noble husband, whose cruel death had filled the nation with a sense of shame. In her letter to Dr. Fitzwilliam, in January, 1686, upon Delamere's trial, she says:—

I do bless God that He has caused some stop to be put to the shedding of blood in this poor land. Yet, when I should rejoice with them that do rejoice, I seek a corner to weep in. I find I am capable of no more gladness; but every new circumstance, the very comparing my night of sorrow, after such a day, with theirs of joy does, from a reflection of one kind or another, rack my uneasy mind. Though I am far from wishing the close of theirs like mine, yet I cannot refrain from giving some time to lament mine was not like theirs.

When we bewail the many evidences we have of the faithlessness of the sex, and how many cultured women who recklessly imperil their own souls and destroy the happiness of men who have trusted in them what a blessing it is that we can hold up to the gaze and admiration of the world such women as Lady Rachael Russell, whose true nobleness of character has evoked the grateful commendation of the historians of every country. There are many such women, happily, left to us to reverence and esteem, but their very virtues only make the more manifest to us the degraded condition of others, who, making a cloak of religion, invoke God as their helper, when they commit the most shameless of sins.

Lord Delamere lived to serve William and Mary as Chancellor of the Exchequer, but he was not at all well adapted for the post; yet his name will ever remain dear to us, for he was a true man in the highest sense of the compliment, and was as devoted to his country as he was faithful to his God.

I do not presume to praise nor to blame Lord Dela-

mere for the part he took in the revolution, but I do take leave to say that James II. must have been a very stupid personage, otherwise he would have seen that his policy of proscription and persecution would drive men like Lord Delamere into open rebellion.

The king visited Chester in 1687, and upon the Sunday after his arrival there he attended mass in the Shire Hall, which had been specially fitted up for the occasion. At the very same hour of the self-same day his friend and creature, Bishop Cartwright, was dwelling in terms of praise of "our most religious king" in a sermon at the Cathedral; and William Penn, the Quaker, another creature of James's, and who was at Chester to meet him, was holding forth in the Tennis Court, the king himself looking in and "decently listening" to Friend Penn's exhortations! The king knew that all this tomfoolery would come to the knowledge of Lord Delamere, that he was a person of great mark in the county, hostile to himself and to his rule, and that he was but playing into his enemy's hands when he demeaned himself in the manner he was doing. But he heeded none of these things, and, as if to crown the evil he was doing to himself and the nation, he invited the wild, wicked, and cruel Tyrconnel to attend upon him at Chester, and then assured him of his confidence and of his perfect approval of all he was doing in Ireland. Then followed "The Cheshire Rising," with Delamere at the head of it, and Lord Macaulay, when dwelling upon the event in his history, says Lord Delamere "convoked his [Cheshire] tenants, called upon them to stand by him, promised that if they fell in the cause [against James] their leases should be secured to their children, and he exhorted every one who had a good horse either to take the field or to find a substitute." He had by this time drawn the sword and cast away the scabbard, and thousands who agreed with him in opinion had done the same all over the country, so that we were then upon the eve of a civil war.

It should be remembered always when reflecting upon the events of the period under notice that the English Roman Catholics looked very coldly upon Tyrconnel; the "Friends" mistrusted Penn, and the genuine Protestants in the Church despised Cartwright. James knew all this, but because the masses had applauded him when on his "Royal Progress" through Cheshire he was fool enough to accept these shouts as the sincere expression of the people's affection for himself. Bouillon, who at that time represented the French Sovereign at the English Court, assured his royal master that James was being deluded, and that he would soon find that out for himself, and to his own cost, and at no very distant day.

The "distant day" came quicker than even he expected, and the Cheshire Rising—if nothing else had happened—should have brought James to his senses.

In a very short time afterwards William of Orange had landed on our shores, and we find him sending Lord Delamere, with two others, to Windsor, to tell the king he had better shift for himself. On the 18th of December, 1688, William took possession of St. James's, and the unhappy sovereign was on his way into exile! The fate of a king is, under any circumstances, a painful event to think upon, but the fate of James, though due to his own unparalleled follies, is a very touching chapter in our history. The Chester incident in his life brings him very near to us—the Delamere one even more so, for they each show us, in their respective ways, how important a part Cheshire men took in the struggle which indirectly led to a change of dynasty, and also to the complete reversal of a policy under which England had been drawn to the very brink of a disaster.

Lord Delamere was, of course, in high favour with the new sovereign, but he was fractious and unbending as a minister. He quarrelled with his colleagues in office, and in the year 1690 he retired from his post and was created Earl of Warrington, with a grant of all lands that could be discovered belonging to Jesuits in five or six counties; and Macaulay adds: "A demand made by him on account of expenses incurred at the time of the Revolution was allowed, and he carried with him into retirement, as a reward of his patriotic exertions, a large sum which the State could ill spare. But his anger was not to be appeased; and to the end of his life he continued to complain bitterly of the ingratitude with which he and his party had been treated." That he had "a temper of his own" none who have read his writings can doubt; and Clarendon declared "that a little sufficed to put Lord Delamere into a passion." In a poem, entitled "The King of Hearts," he is described as—

A restless malecontent, even when preferred,  
His very countenance has been satirized;  
His boding looks a mind destitute show,  
And envy sits engraved upon his brow.

"The Place Bill" was brought into the Commons at the close of 1692, and it appears to have passed through all its stages in that House rapidly; but in the Lords it met with considerable opposition, and Warrington is found among "the most violent and intolerant" Whigs who objected to it. He was evidently a strong-minded, not to say perverse, man, who having formed opinions for himself, held to them at all risks; and none can question that such a man was a difficult opponent to deal with. He was a Cheshire man, of historical importance, however, and it is as such I have dealt with him.

So penetrating was the mind of Lord Macaulay that he observed the most minute details in the records of events when preparing his history for the Press, and he alludes to the discovery of salt in Cheshire in the following words: "The first bed of rock salt had been discovered in Cheshire not long after the Restoration, but does not appear to have been worked till much later. The salt which was obtained by a rude process from brine pits was held in no high estimation. The pans in which the manufacture was carried on exhaled a sulphuric stench; and when the separation was complete the substance which was left was scarcely fit to be used with food." Then he adds this laughable record: "Physicians attributed the scorbutic and pulmonary complaints which were common among the English to this unwholesome condiment. It was therefore seldom used by the upper and middle classes, and there was a regular and considerable importation from France."

This last bit of historic lore must be more interesting to us in Cheshire than even the rise and fall of James II., for in this year of grace 1886 we proudly look upon our salt trade as a staple of immense value to us; and I conclude that the physicians of our own day will be prepared to set down their predecessors in the profession as a set of noodles, who were no wiser in their calling than poor James was in his.

A CHESTERMAN.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1886.

## Notes.

### RECOLLECTIONS OF STOCKPORT.

I concluded my last paper by stating that Mr Joseph Rayner married the widow of Mr Stitfall, and went to live in retirement in the neighbourhood of Greek-street. In the year 1830 the individual who afterwards became Mrs Stitfall, and after that Mrs Rayner, resided with her mother in

Astley-street, Heaton-lane, opposite to the then entrance to the cotton mill now owned and worked by Mr S. W. Wilkinson. She was then employed in a cotton mill. She grew to be very handsome, went to be servant to Mr Stitfall, and ultimately became his wife. Mr Stitfall was a tailor and woollen draper. He carried on his business for many years in premises opposite the District Bank, in Great Underbank. He was successful in business, and became comparatively wealthy. He



erected the large and well-proportioned block of dwellings on the south side of Greek-street, near the Grammar School. Mr Stitfall had attained a ripe age when he married his beautiful young wife. They lived together in seeming felicity, in the farthest dwelling in the block from the Grammar School, but a few years, when Mr Stitfall died, and left his comparatively young widow all his property.

At the time of Mrs Stitfall's widowhood the rumour was that Mr Joseph Rayner, by his erratic speculations and benevolence to the operatives, had lost nearly the whole of his hard-earned wealth. As I have stated before, Mr Rayner paid his addresses to this charming widow. He was accepted, and they became man and wife, lived together but a few years, when Mr Joseph Rayner died, and was interred in St. Thomas's burial ground. I was told a short time ago, by one of her relatives, that this twice widowed and once beautiful lady spent the last years of her romantic life in a lunatic asylum.

Mr John Rayner (the next brother to Joseph) was born in the year 1808. I have been told that he first drew breath in the large dwelling next door to the Grapes Inn in the Underbank. Like his other brothers, he was put to the medical profession. He was very studious when but a boy, and after having matriculated in the Royal College of Surgeons, and whilst practising in that institution, he gained several honours for his expertness in surgery.

It was in the year 1835 when I personally became known to Dr. John Rayner. It was customary then at the Tiviot Dale Sunday School for the visitors, teachers, and scholars to hold their annual tea party on the 23rd of October in each year, the ancient Stockport fair, the day on which the mayors of Stockport were formerly chosen and installed in office. These tea parties at Tiviot Dale were made as attractive as possible. The school was decorated with evergreens, flowers, drapery, and oil paintings. The ministers and some of the principal laymen delivered suitable addresses. The teachers and scholars vied with each other in reciting pieces. Messrs Charles Brooks and J. W. Swain had the command of the principal musicians of Stockport, who were always willing to give their services on these occasions. I had been assisting in the choir, and I had also taken a part in a lengthy dialogue, "Ten thousand bright guineas in gold." The school was over-crowded, and became uncomfortably hot. After reciting my

piece I went into the schoolyard without hat to cool myself, and by doing this foolish act I caught a severe cold, which resulted in a malignant fever. At this time Mr John Rayner was twenty-seven years old; he was rather tall in stature and had a very gentlemanly appearance. He had gained a high position in his profession, and was an active member on the staff of surgeons attending the Stockport Infirmary. Mr John Rayner was the doctor who attended me in my sickness. It was a prevalent custom then for men and youths to wear belts round their waists under their vests. These belts were made of a strong fabric, and had several straps and buckles attached to each end of the belt, so that we might tighten ourselves up to our own liking. When I was taken sick I neglected divesting myself of my belt. When the doctor came to examine me he saw this belt, and inquired what it was, what was its use, and what was I doing with it on whilst in bed. These questions were all asked in one breath, and before I could answer one of them he drew his knife from his pocket and cut the belt off, and gave orders that it was not to be worn again. My fever caused me to lie in bed about five weeks. During that time Mr Rayner attended me very assiduously, and I have great cause to be thankful for his skilful treatment to me, for I have never tasted medicine since. I have never heard of Mr John Rayner trying to attain to any municipal honours; his whole energies seemed to be thrown into his profession, to which he became an ornament. He resided many years in the large dwelling fronting the Higher Hillgate, near Messrs Christy's hat works. Whilst residing there he was a constant worshipper at the St. Thomas's Church. Mr Rayner acquired a very large practice, and was cut off in the midst of his usefulness. He died on April the 29th, 1857, in the prime of life, being only 47 years of age. A marble cross marks his last resting place on the south side of St. Thomas's Church.

Doctor William Rayner, the youngest of the then Rayner brothers, was born in the old house in the Underbank in the year 1811. I saw very little of him until the year 1823. He was then a nice-looking boy with a curly head of hair. He was then attending Mr Oldham's school, which was kept in an upper room in premises adjoining the Fleece Inn, in Chestergate, near my home. I attended this school a short time. The way to it was down a passage next to the Fleece, called Turner's entry. We then crossed a yard or court, which con-

lined a number of dwellings, and then we ascended the stone steps which led to the school. I seldom saw Mr W. Rayner after his school days until 1838. He then had married Miss Hyde, a beautiful and accomplished lady, and resided in the large house at the bottom of Threadneedle-street, off Heaton-street, the house that Mr Charles Axon dwelt in before he built his fine residence at Norris-bank. I was then a mill warper at the Mersey Mills, then owned and worked by Messrs William Smith and Charles Carr. Our warping room adjoined the residence of the doctor, only a thin wall dividing it from the doctor's drawing-room. Young Mrs Rayner was a good musician; she could sing well, and she could also accompany herself on the piano in good style. There were three warping mills in our room, and when we (the warpers) were creeping together and all being quiet, we often heard Mrs Rayner singing and playing the latest compositions of the day. Sometimes Mrs Rayner could sing something which we warpers were conversant with, and a chorus at the end of each verse. When we joined Mrs Rayner in singing the chorus, which always put a stop to the concert for the time being. About this time, 1838, an American named Rice came to England, and was the first to introduce nigger singing and the accompanying dancing to this country. One of the first places his company appeared at was the old Queen's Theatre, in Park-street, Manchester. Mr Rice's absurdities were amazingly good, and a great many people went from Stockport to see his performances, myself amongst the rest. The principal item in Mr Rice's programme was a song and dance called "Jim Crow." This was one of the most foolish absurdities ever introduced before the public; still it became the most popular song during that season, and brought in a golden harvest for Mr Rice. At every far end of this absurd song was the following chorus:—

Wheel about, turn about, and do just so;  
And every time you turn about, jump Jim Crow.

Then followed a grotesque dance. After hearing and seeing this performance, and having given my comrades an inkling of it, nothing would do but must learn them this song and dance. We had had several noisy rehearsals with interruption. One afternoon we were having a rehearsal when we were stopped short by seeing Mr Rayner's tall stick coming up the stairs leading into our warping room. He accosted us in vigorous language, and wanted to know if we intended to shake his house down. Jehu Stockport, one of the warpers, told

him that he had only been knocking a nail in the floor. Mr Rayner retorted that he kept remarkably good time with his hammer, and went away threatening that he would indict us all three for a nuisance. We amended our manners, and we heard no more complaining from the doctor.

Mr Rice, the composer of "Jim Crow," got drowned whilst on his voyage home in the steamer "The President."

Doctor William Rayner, M.D., in politics might be termed a moderate Liberal, that is, if he was a politician at all. If he was a politician he was a very unobtrusive one. It was rarely that we saw him attending political meetings, and rarer still to hear him thrusting his political views before the public. The reason I term him a moderate Liberal is because his private associates were mostly of that complexion. Like his brother John, he devoted his whole energies to the study of his profession, and soon gained a high position in it, he having gained the M.D. degree when quite a young man. From the year 1846 to 1852 Stockport had for its mayors gentlemen of Conservative opinions. In the year 1852 a reaction took place, when Mr Charles Baker, J.P., spirit merchant, was chosen a second time to be our chief magistrate, he having been the mayor of Stockport in the year 1839. After Mr Baker's term of office in 1853, Dr. William Rayner was chosen by a unanimous vote of the council to be the mayor. He was a gentleman who wished to see Stockport and its inhabitants in a better condition when he left it than when he came into it, both morally, socially, and commercially. He was the first mayor who had filled that office two years in succession during the present century. Many improvements were made in Stockport during the two years of Mr Rayner's mayoralty. I will now only name a few; the widening of Lancashire Bridge; the improvement and widening of Vernon-street; paving and sewerage the Castle Yard, and the conversion of it into a cattle market. Before this time our cattle market had been held a number of years in the old orchard, once owned by Mr Raffald, who was for very many years the landlord of the Arden Arms, at the bottom of the Millgate. The Ten Hours Factory Bill was agitated and passed during Mr Rayner's mayoralty. The Smoke Nuisance Act for Stockport was put into operation during Mr Rayner's term of office, he being one of the principal agitators in getting the smoke nuisance clause inserted in the Stockport Improvement Act. I remember reading a speech which he delivered on this smoke subject in the

council chamber. He then stated that he lost £40 per annum through this smoke nuisance, but in what way he did not say.

Dr. Rayner was a close friend and associate with that large-hearted philanthropist, Sir Ralph Pendlebury, who bequeathed one hundred thousand pounds to be used for charitable purposes. Sir Ralph left this large amount of money in charge of a number of gentlemen, of whom Dr. Rayner was the principal. I am not going to say whether this splendid bequest has been put to the best purpose or not; that I will leave for others to decide. I can say this much, that I know of a large number of poor orphan children who are being well clothed and fed in a very unostentatious manner, and without the least semblance to pauperism, and this from Sir Ralph's money. Dr. Rayner took a great interest in the carrying out of the wishes of the deceased knight and the erection of the beautiful structure on Dodge Hill—the Pendlebury Memorial Hall—which was erected to perpetuate the name of Stockport's great philanthropist, Sir Ralph Pendlebury. Much has been said and written about the usefulness of this building, some contending that it is more beautiful than useful. This may be so at the present time, but we must bear in mind that this edifice is only in its infancy, and we cannot tell what uses it may be put to hereafter. This much we know, that it will serve instead of a statue to keep fresh the memory of Sir Ralph, and be quite as useful as would an effigy. Dr. William Rayner resided many of his last years in life in the large mansion opposite the Tiviot Dale Chapel. Here he followed his profession with the utmost assiduity for over thirty years, and on several occasions nearly fell a martyr to it owing to the dangers attendant upon it, having on several occasions contracted disease whilst attending his patients. In two cases that I recollect these almost proved fatal.

He was one of our oldest magistrates, both for the borough and county, and for many years was one of the best attenders on the judicial bench, both at the Stockport Court Room and the Heaton Norris Vestry Hall, and he became a terror to evil doers.

A new musical society was started in Stockport during Mr Rayner's mayoralty, called the Church Choral Union. This society was made up of the principal members of the church choirs, both of Stockport and Heaton Norris, and the clergy connected therewith. We met once a week for practice in one of the large rooms of

the National Sunday School, and everything went on smoothly for several months. During the short life of this society several parties and social meetings took place at the various Church Sunday schools, and the clergy at these gatherings spoke hopefully concerning this new society. They exhorted the teachers and elder scholars to join, and stated what a good thing it would be for the churches when the teachers and scholars were well trained in church music, which they would be if they joined this new organisation. It would have been well for the society had their speeches ended in that strain. One or two of these clerical gentlemen further added in their speeches what a further blessing it would be for the church when this new society furnished every choir with voluntary singers. These speeches got noised abroad, and the principal members of the choir, who were at that time being paid, came to the conclusion that economy rather than efficiency was the cause of these gentlemen supporting this society. The singers saw that if the society was still carried on their occupation would soon be gone; they therefore, withdrew their attendance and support, and it came to a sudden collapse. Several letters appeared in the *Stockport Advertiser* of that date denying the aspersion that the aim of the clergy in promulgating this Church Choral Union was solely to do away with paid singers in their choirs. These letters did no more than vindicate the writers' characters. The society was never again resuscitated.

During Mr Rayner's mayoralty, or in the year in which he was chosen to be the mayor, Stockport lost one of her worthies in the person of Mr John Barrow, brazier, copper smith, and tinplate worker, who resided and carried on his business in the premises now occupied by Mr Blagg in the Little Underbank. Mr Barrow was born in the year 1777 where his father resided before him, in the premises before named. This family was one of the oldest we had in Stockport in that line of business, and at one time they employed the most men of any in the copper and tinplate line in town. I can remember when the cellar under the shop was full with journeymen and apprentices, who always seemed to be fully employed in making copper kettles and all kinds of culinary utensils. Besides the workshop in the cellar in the Little Underbank, Mr Barrow had a commodious workshop in the Royal Oak yard, a few yards from the brick wall which then open Tin Brook. It is very probable that the men working for the Barrow firm would be the first who cast their refuse tin into this running stream, which was afterwards called the Tin Brook.

After living his whole life in the precincts of the unsalubrious stream, Mr John Barrow died on the 28th of January, in the year 1853, aged 75 years. The greatest misfortune that Dr Rayner ever experienced was the loss of his accomplished and loving wife, Mrs Mary Rayner, who was cut off in the prime of life. She died on the 31st of July, 1877, in the 53rd year of her age. Anyone taking notice of the doctor could see that the loss of his wife preyed much upon his mind; he appeared to grow into an old man very quickly afterwards. He, however, attended to his numerous duties until a short time before his death, which occurred on April the 8th, 1886, in the 75th year of his age. He was interred close to the centre aisle in the Borough Cemetery. The Rev. H. Harries, pastor of the Hanover Chapel, performed the funeral obsequies.

A few yards lower down the Underbank than the birth-place of the Rayner brothers stood in 1823, an old thatched house, which stood on the road side, opposite Adlington-square. It was tenanted by a Mr Partington and his family. This Mr Partington (who was better known as "Punch Partington") was a dyer by trade, and carried on his business in the front part of the house, and he and his family resided in the rear. Partington, by some mishap, had had the misfortune to lose a portion of his left leg, about four inches below his knee, and in consequence was necessitated to use a wooden leg, if exhibited now, would be pronounced by the public to be a novelty. I have an impression that cork and those other fanciful substitutes for flesh and bone were not cultivated then. His wooden leg, Punch Partington's wooden leg consisted of a wooden stump, about two feet long, resembling a common table leg, topped with a capital, in form like the letter U. This portion was padded with soft wadding. Mr Partington placed his knee on this wadding, then the sides, which projected on either side, were bound to his thigh by straps. Thus equipped "Punch" could stamp over the ground very nimbly. I introduce this character into my paper more because of his popularity than of any great deeds he ever did for Stockport, he being almost as well known in the town as the old school pump which stood but a few yards from his residence, and for the fun the lads of the neighbourhood often had at "Punch's" expense. Mr Partington, although dwelling in such a, to all appearance, filthy hovel, always appeared to be very clean both in person and dress when making his peregrinations through the town. He had almost a daily

habit of walking from his residence to Petty Carr Green and back again. Sometimes he was allowed to have his walk peaceably, at other times a number of rude lads would follow in his wake and count audibly every step he took with his wooden leg. This usage exasperated Mr Partington very much. Sometimes a lad, more rude and daring than the rest, would follow closer than was safe. Mr Partington would suddenly turn round and give the lad a blow with his wooden leg, which generally sent the offender sprawling on the ground.

I lost sight of Mr Partington when my parents removed from Chestergate in the year 1826, and I have no recollection of his doings afterwards, or of his death. Mr Partington left two sons behind him who became well-known residents in the neighbourhood of the Middle Hillgate. It was left to Mr Partington's grandson to bring this old Stockport family more prominently before the people of Stockport. This grandson, after following various occupations, got a situation in our police force. Filling this office very zealously a number of years, he was promoted to be sergeant in our police force. His zeal whilst fulfilling the office of sergeant of police, and a few false steps which he made, gained for him a number of enemies who proved too powerful for him, and who by their clamour got him discharged. It was, however, in the Stockport fire brigade that he made himself most useful and conspicuous. For some years he was the superintendent of our fire brigade, and during that time he did the town much valuable service. Mr James Partington still holds a high position in the Stockport fire brigade, and is also a cab proprietor, and at the present time holds the contract of conveying the prisoners from the Stockport lockups to Belle Vue gaol.

We seldom see a noble mansion without a few humble cottages in its vicinity; it was so as regards Punch Partington's thatched hovel. There was a number of the aristocratic families in Stockport who had their residences within a few hundred yards from this humble dwelling, which I hope I shall have the privilege of naming in some future paper. Within a few yards of it Alderman Edward Walmsley, J.P., was born. As this gentleman is still living, and yet a bachelor, I will not say at what date he was born, as it might be detrimental to his future happiness. This much I will say, I think he is about the same age as myself. I often saw Edward Walmsley when a boy. I considered him then to be one of the nicest boys in the Underbank. He had a head of curly hair. He was

always well and cleanly dressed, which denoted that he had a good mother to look after him. His father was an opulent butcher, who carried on his business many years in the premises opposite to the entrance to Adlington-square.

I don't remember ever meeting Mr Edward Walmsley between the years 1826 and 1840. In that year (like nearly all the musicians of Stockport), he became a member of the Stockport Choral Society. Mr Walmsley was the organist and choirmaster of St. Thomas's, Heaton Chapel, for many years. During that time he did much to cultivate the science of music. He was a master cotton spinner, and a number of his workpeople were members of the Heaton Chapel choir. He had an organ in his residence, which was near his mill, on the canal side, off Sandy-lane, Heaton Norris. His principal singers being his own workpeople, they generally held their rehearsals at Mr Walmsley's residence, which saved them the trouble of walking to the chapel. Mr Walmsley was a prominent member of the Church Choral Union during its short life, and he had all the honours conferred upon him which it was possible for his political party to confer. He was a member of the Board of Guardians for the Stockport Union. He was a J.P. both for the borough and the county. He was a common councillor, was made an alderman, and his cup of honours was filled when he was elected to be the Mayor of Stockport in the year 1860. It was Mr Walmsley's desire, whilst Mayor of Stockport, that some tribute should be paid to the memory of Mr John Wainwright, once the organist of St. Mary's Church, Stockport, and composer of the world-famed tune called "Stockport," set to Mr Byrom's hymn, "Christians awake." The committee of the Stockport Choral Society took this matter up. We met on several occasions at the Apsley Cottage, the residence of Samuel Wright Wilkinson. Our object was to get all the information we could respecting the birth, the writings, the general history, the date of his death, and the precise spot of Mr John Wainwright's last resting place. I had not then gained the acquaintance of Mr J. Owen (Old Mortality), who has since brought evidence to prove that John Wainwright was a Stockportonian, was the composer of the Christmas tune "Stockport," and that he now sleeps in St. Mary's churchyard. Our meetings at Apsley Cottage came to no result, and it is now left with the musicians of Stockport to decide whether they will honour John Wainwright or not.

Stockport

J. GREENHALGH

#### SIR JOHN PERCIVAL, KNT., AN EMINENT CHESHIRE WORTHY.

A recent issue of the *London City Press* contains an interesting account of Sir John Percival, who was Lord Mayor of London in the year 1493. The subject of the paper was a Cheshire man, and an eminent benefactor of his native town, yet heretofore but very little appears to be known of him. The whole article may therefore, I think, be fitly reproduced for permanent reference in CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES. After stating that he lived in anxious times, and must have been present at stirring incidents, the account goes on:—

He was born at Macclesfield, in Cheshire, in the first half of the 15th century. After he came to London he connected himself with the Merchant Taylors' Company, and lived in Lombard-street, possibly in a house occupying the site of the General Steam Navigation Company.

He was probably a Lancastrian in politics, for the latest authority on knighthood states Percival to have been knighted by Henry VII. in Hornsey Park, upon the king's return to London in 1487.

In the previous year he had been made Sheriff, an incident thus related by Entick:—"John Percival, one of the Lord Mayor's carvers, while he was waiting at table was drunk to for Sheriff—as the custom then was for the person to whom the Lord Mayor should drink a glass of wine, and thereby nominate him for one of the Sheriffs for the year ensuing; and Mr Percival, being thus chosen by Sir Henry Colet, the Lord Mayor, then drinking to him, sat down at the Lord Mayor's table, covered his head, and in due time became chief magistrate."

This probably happened in the Merchant Taylors' hall, for the Lord Mayor's feast—until the Guildhall was built—took place in alternate years at this hall. Sir Henry Colet, the father of the dean who founded St. Paul's School, was also an honorary member of the company. Thus Percival was launched into civic office, having held the mastership of his company.

About this period he married, and, as the history of the lady who became his wife is tinged with romance, we give it at length from an old author. She was a native of Wyke St. Mary, named Bonaventur, born about A.D. 1450, whose father (though poor) had a flock of sheep, which she had to watch while they fed on the village common. Being so engaged, a London draper and mercer, Thomas Bumsby, while travelling for orders, passed by, and was so struck with her beauty that he desired to receive her into his family and service. An interview took place with her parents and they, finding Bumsby to be an honest and wealthy man, consented, and the result was that she came to London and entered into his household. Her conduct

is said to have been beyond reproach, and when in after years the master's wife died he married and endowed her with a considerable fortune in case of her survivorship—which happened. Some time after she had become a widow she married again, and her second husband was one Henry Galle, said to be an eminent and wealthy citizen—possibly the gentleman so named who was a member of the Merchant Taylors' Company. Be that as it may, the marriage led to a further augmentation of her wealth, and with that, at the age of thirty, she again became a widow.

After these events, "the fame, virtue, wealth, and beauty of this widow spread itself over the city of London," so that the greatest men were suitors for her hand, but it was the good fortune of John Percival to prevail.

Her jointure and wealth were again augmented, for she survived Sir John Percival, and was, for the third time, a widow.

"To show," writes Carew, who published his History in 1603, "that virtue as well bore a part in her deserts as fortune in the means of her preferment, she employed the whole residue of her life and last widowhood to works no less bountiful than charitable, viz., repairing highways, building bridges, endowing maidens, relieving prisoners, feeding and appareling the poor. Amongst the rest, at St. Mary Wyke she founded a charity and free school, wherein, as the bent of her desire was holy, so God blessed the "same with all wished success, for divers of the best gentlemen's sons of Devon and Cornwall were there virtuously trained up in both kinds of divers and human learning."

But to revert to Sir John: He became in 1496 Lord Mayor, having as his colleague in the office of Sheriff Sir Stephen Jenyns (master in 1489, and a noble benefactor to the Merchant Taylors' Company).

Both Sir John and his dame were large benefactors to the Merchant Taylors' Company. He gave his property in Lombard-street, which was chosen as the original site for the Royal Exchange by Gresham, but as they deemed it "the jewel of their estates," they would not sell it, and she gave them estates in the Vintry.

Both he and his chantry priest (Sir Lawrence Warren) made presents of plate to the company, and his dame gave a "standing cup," and other articles.

But the crowning glory of their benevolence was that of the seventeen grammar schools founded in Henry VII.'s reign—two of these were established by Sir John and Dame Percival, and are now successful schools in Macclesfield and Llancoaston, the places, where he and his wife were born.

The will of Sir John (dated January 25th, 1503)

establishing his school, gives his experience in these words:—

"In the county of Cheshire, and especially about the town of Macclesfield, fast by which I was born, God, of His abundant grace, hath sent, and daily does send, to the inhabitants copious plenty of children, to whose learning, bringing forth in cunning and virtue, right few teachers and schoolmasters are in the county, whereby many children for lack of such teaching fall to idleness, and live dissolutely all their days." Therefore he founded a free grammar school, in the town of Macclesfield, for teaching these gentlemen's sons, and other good men's children of the town and country therabouts.

The dame's experience was, no doubt, to the same purport, and we have seen with what success her school was blessed.

Such was the first Lord Mayor of the Merchant Taylors' Company. In these later days it is given to few to have sufficient means to found schools or charities, but it is given to many citizens to administer and govern them. Such a work is one of no light responsibility if we take due care that all classes have what are their rights, and see that the artificer, from whom much of the nation's wealth is derived, is provided with good technical instruction, so that he may be enabled to compete successfully, as in former years, with his foreign rivals, and uphold English supremacy in the commerce of the world.

Leigh, Lancashire.

W. D. FINE.

## Replies.

### MONUMENTAL BRASSES.

The following notes of monumental brasses in Cheshire are given from Haines' "Manual of Monumental Brasses," 1861, Part II.:—

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL.—"Thomas Madock, 1761, and wife, 1792, a long inscription with angels and a skeleton, small, south transept.

MACCLESFIELD.—Roger Legh, 1506, and wife Elizabeth (Sutton), 1489, with six sons and six daughters, wife and daughters now lost, curious, mural, in wooden frame. River's "Chapel," pp. 101-104; J. Burroughs's "View of Popery," 1785, pp. 152-154; and *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. LXIV., 1794, Part II., p. 980 (inscription); Anastatic, Cambridge, 1848 (detail).

MIDDLEWICH.—Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Sir William Brereton, and wife of Thomas Venables, Esq., baron of Kynderton, 1591, and son Thomas, deceased, ætatis 11, and daughters Elizabeth and Mary, quadrangular plate, small, north chantry.

OVER.—Hugh Starky, Esq., of Olton, gentleman usher to Henry VIII., son of Hugh Starky, Esq., of Olton, and rebuilder of church, choir, 1510, altar tomb, chancel.

TARVIN.—†Four English verses to Henry Hardware, alderman and twice mayor of Chester, 1584, choir.

WILMSLOW.—Sir Robert del Bothe, lord of the manors of Bolyu, Thornewton, and Dunham (slain at the battle of Blore Heath), 1460, and wife Douce (Venables), 1453, canopy lost, marginal inscription, much mutilated, choir. Pp. 62-194 214, Boutell's Series.

WYBUNBURY.—Ralf Dellvys, 1513, in armour, and wife Katherine, three daughters lost, mural, nave.

The brasses of Randall Dod, 1634, and wife Elizabeth, in shrouds, once at Little Budworth, are lost.

The author has examined rubbings of those brasses which have not the marks \* † attached to them. An asterisk prefixed to a notice of a brass, or to the name of a church containing one or more brasses, indicates that the description has been obtained from recent communications or publications, and is most probably correct. The mark † placed before a few notices of brasses implies that their present existence or the accuracy of their description is uncertain. Notices of inscriptions of slight interest or unauthenticated are generally omitted.

FREDERICK LAWRENCE TAYLOR.

## Queries.

HARRISON AND STRETHILL FAMILIES.—I have just read with much interest the two notices by Messrs William Norbury and J. Owen, of the Hulme, Strethill and Harrison families, in "Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Notes" for December, 1883, and April, 1884. I should be very much obliged to Mr Norbury or Mr Owen, or any other correspondent, who would kindly give me further information as to the family of Samuel Harrison, who married Elizabeth Strettall, or Strethill. In a pedigree of the family of Comberbach, of Haughton Hall, I have it that Ann, daughter of John Comberbach, of Haughton Hall, married Samuel Harrison, of Tatton, and had a son, Samuel Harrison, of Cranage Hall, Esq., high sheriff of the county of Chester in 1759, this being also the year of his mother's death. Are Samuel Harrison and Ann Comberbach, his wife, identical with the Samuel and Ann, parents of Strettall Harrison, who, according to the M.I. at Mobberley, given by Mr Owen, died 23rd December, 1734, the latter being therefore a brother of Samuel Harrison, of Cranage Hall, high sheriff in 1759? Again, was this latter father of Strethill Harrison, of Cranage Hall, Esq., who died 27th April, 1801? Any information about this family of Harrison will oblige,

JOHN HAMERTON CRUMP.

Junior Carlton Club, London, S.W.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1886.

## Notes.

### LOVE AND CRIME.

The curious case of Scott v. Sebright which has evidently led you to re-print the Cheshire one of Turner v. Wakefield, has also recalled to my mind a still more remarkable one, which Teresa Phillips, a Cheshire lady by birth, has alluded to in her many oddments, when she was at war with her supposed husband generations ago. I have never seen any accurate record of this case, but in its incidents, as I remember them, it just showed how love and crime so often hunt in couples, and how the surroundings of each case may differ in nearly all their essentials, and yet end in the same results. In the Sebright case, it would appear, the marriage was set aside upon a very narrow issue, for a ceremony of marriage was gone through in legal form, in a duly authorised place, and in the presence of the registrar. In that of Turner, abduction was proved, a thing, which the law took

cognisance of; and, so far as I can make out from her own published story, Miss Phillips was married legally in a sense, and yet she was not married; and then, taking the law into her own hands, she played a very criminal game for many years to her own profit, and scandal, without caring very much what the law or the public thought about her conduct.

In the particular case I have alluded to the law of the land could not operate at all, and the funny part of the story is, that the gay Teresa should suddenly become a moralist, and condemn in very strong language the frailty of one of her own sex, a lady who had been her own particular friend at a time when the lady of gentle birth, was certainly beyond all reproach.

This young person had fallen in love with a gentleman who, for some time, had kept her at arm's length; not because he did not care for her, but for personal and family reasons, which had operated upon his mind as to his duty to others. In his opinion he could

not honourably throw himself at the feet of his gentle lover under the circumstances in which he was placed; but she plied him so well with her wiles that eventually he became her slave, and at last offered to marry her. She gladly—and it is admitted—promptly accepted his hand; but friends interfered with their good offices, with a view of breaking off the match, and in a weak moment she was induced to ask her promised husband to release her from her engagement. My impression is that, he had consented to do so, when suddenly her affections for him overcame all her scruples, and she hastened to ask him to forgive her apparent fickleness, and to marry her. A formal contract of marriage therefore followed; the time and place of marriage was discussed and agreed upon, and, in short, all the preliminaries had been settled, and the friends of both parties were informed of this irrevocable engagement between the affianced lovers.

The same evil influences were again brought to bear upon the lady, and once more she asked her affianced husband to release her from her contract of marriage; he refused to be trifled with in this strange fashion, and declined to comply with her request. The lady and her friends thereupon proceeded to slander the unhappy lover; they asserted, falsely, there never had been any engagement, that if any such existed it was brought about by fraud, for selfish ends, and under the most false of pretences. The evidences of the engagement, and of the manner it was brought about, both written and otherwise, were beyond all question, and they were pronounced to be legally conclusive on all points by lawyers of eminence; but it was held that until the lady had committed some overt act in breach of her contract her affianced husband could not enforce his rights by law, nor could he force the lady to fulfil her part of the contract by any methods then known to the legal fraternity.

Upon this Mrs Phillips grew virtuously indignant, and all the more so because—as she asserted—this unhappy lady professed to be a thorough Christian woman, and to be anxious to fulfil the moral law in its integrity, as in the sight of God. The severe terms in which she denounces her old friend as a faithless woman are painful, however true they may be in fact; but bad as her conduct may have been in this particular, no one could call in question her perfect virtue, or find fault with her otherwise faultless character. Her critic was known to the world as among the vilest of her sex, and thus “the devil found fault with sin.” All I could see in the case was the entire disregard of truth and honour; the abandonment of those Christian graces which we rightly expect to meet with in the cultured members of the sex. The most ordinary of women would, under the circumstances, have sought the forgiveness of their lovers, and they would have done so with many tears and many self-upbraidings; and from that point of view

the criminality of the offender does force itself upon the mind, both in its moral aspect and also in its legal one. Mrs Phillips herself—if her published narrative be true—had been shamefully used by the man in whom she had trusted, and I admit that no language could be too strong in condemnation of his conduct; but I should have expected she would have dealt tenderly at least with one of her own sex, who had been her friend and companion for many years; but instead of that, the terms of reproach in which she denounced her own erring husband sound tamely by the side of the language she applies in condemnation of this lady's misconduct.

The most painful incident in the story is the effect it all had upon Mrs Phillips's own mind. “I had,” she says, “believed in God until this happened, but now, when I see how this woman can pray to Him and seem to find peace in the contemplation of His perfections I have put God away from all my thoughts, for if such a woman can dare approach Him and live, I cannot believe any more in His justice or in the dispensation of His providence.” Did not the weak and faithless woman thus become a source of death unto death to her old friend? That is not an unfit question to put, for rightly or otherwise, there will be a terrible story to be related between them hereafter, for God, as we believe, is both “righteous and just in all His ways,” and the very smallest of our affairs are known to Him: The moral of all this seems to be pretty clear. The laws applicable to our love and marriage affairs are not wisely designed for good; they are harsh and inoperative where they should be tender but effective; they are faulty also where marriages have been set aside, for if the cases mentioned can be taken as samples of many others it is most difficult to determine where the marriage bonds are binding upon both parties alike, or why in one case a marriage can be set aside under one sort of theory, and it cannot be done under a different sort by the very same Act.

But beyond all these considerations is it not a last made apparent to us that the system of procedure we are adopting in our dealings with breach of promise cases, and especially divorce cases, is radically bad from a public point of view? The Dilke scandal brought out a horrible story of lust and sin; and many other cases might be mentioned of a like nature. No doubt it is most desirable that the innocent should be protected by law and the guilty punished, but in matters affecting individuals only, and where family scandals have to be dealt with, why should such cases not be referred to a superior judge sitting *in camera*, with full powers to examine all parties on oath, and to determine all such causes without the aid of a jury? It may be said that a judge, after all, is but a man, subject to make mistakes, but that could be provided



for by an appeal to a higher court, where three judges could sit to review the proceedings of the single judge in case of need. We are morally bound to think of the direful effects of the evidence given in public upon the minds of the young in cases of this nature, and until we come to that condition of mind we cannot hope to satisfy the public feeling upon this part of our judicial system.

RUSMEISTER.

#### TRANSCRIPTS OF CHESTER PARISH REGISTERS.

It may interest any Cheshire genealogists, who are not already aware of the fact, to know that Harl. MS. 2177 in the British Museum contains transcripts by Randle Holme of parts of the early registers of several of the parishes of the city of Chester; especially as the original registers of the parish of Holy Trinity previous to 1660 have been lost.

The volume contains the following:—St. Bridget's, baptisms, 1560-1638; marriages, 1560-1637; burials, 1560-1666. Holy Trinity, baptisms, marriages, and burials, 1598-1653. St. Mary-on-the-Hill, baptisms, 1547-1572; marriages, 1547-1551; burials, 1547-1553. St. Olave's, baptisms, marriages, and burials, 1611-1644, and burials, 1654-1673.

In the transcript of the St. Bridget's registers R. Holme makes the following notes: "1632, 1633, 1634 [baptisms], cut out of ye Register." "1632, 1633, 1634 [burials], being cutt out." After an entry of a burial in March, 1643, "Here the register is defective till the year 1653, Tho. Walker register, there being neither priest nor clarks the tymes were such." At the year 1633 in the weddings, "Here there is some leaves wanting in the register;" and the next entry occurs 16th July, 1635.

Besides the registers, R. Holme gives the following information from the parish books of Holy Trinity; I give the heading in his own words:—

"A copy of the Register Booke  
of Trinity Church in Chester copied  
by me Randle Holme Alderman  
and Justice of the peace 1653,

Goods belonging to the said Church of Holy Trinity.

Books belonging to Trinity Church.

Lands belonging to Holy Trinity.

The Churchwardens accounts of Trinity from 1532-1636.

The parishners names in severall yeares.

Pastimes and tricks shew on the Top of Trinity and St. Peters steeples by the mass as pointed them."

In the transcript of the registers the following notes occur:—Baptisms, after an entry on 27th May, 1645, "Here wanting from this place for then the Clarke was putt out of Towne for delinquency so no more is entred till 12 March 1625 [sic] for all this time the City

was in strait seage." After an entry on 9th July, 1647, "Tho. Wright Clarke wants here," and again, "1650 Rich. Throp Stationer Clarke by him writt till he was putt out." There are no marriages entered between 1644 and 1651.

After the entry of a burial on 16th July, 1645, he notes "About this time the Clarke was turned out of towne for a delinquent so nothing is signified till the city was yealded up when he came agayne 2 Feb." In 1647 occurs the ominous word "Plague" [sic], and after an entry on 8th July of this year "no further is entred in the boke of burials" [i.e. for this year].

In the transcript of the St. Mary's registers no baptisms are given from 1554 to 1569 inclusive.

At the head of the transcript of the St. Olave's registers R. Holme notes "the old Booke was lost in the suite betw. Hugh Harvey and the pehnars anno 1666."

JOHN HAMERTON CRUMP.

Junior Carlton Club, London, S.W.

#### PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY OF CHESHIRE. XV.

24 George III.

Met May 18, 1784. Dissolved June 12, 1790.

CHESHIRE.—Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, bart.

John Crewe, of Crewe, esq.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

Richard Willbraham, Bootle, esq.

Mr Thomas Grosvenor and Mr Willbraham Bootle were both ardent supporters of Mr Pitt, their opponents in the representation of the city being Mr John Crewe, of Bolesworth Castle, and Mr Roger Barnston, both equally ardent supporters of Fox, these being aided by a sort of anti-Grosvenor feeling which had been growing up among the freemen of the city.

The result of the elections at this time was to place Pitt and his party in power, Fox having lost some 160 supporters by the appeal to the country. Pitt's triumph was complete when, on May 18, he met the new Parliament. To quote Macaulay (*Biographies* p. 174) "he became the greatest master of the whole art of parliamentary government that ever existed; a greater than Montague or Walpole; a greater than his father Chatham, or his rival Fox; a greater than either of his illustrious successors, Canning or Peel."

During the first session Mr Pitt devoted himself to India and the finances. His India Bill, introduced June 6, at once passed both Houses and received the Royal assent. By this Act he placed the patronage of the Indian appointments at the disposal of the Government instead of being monopolised by the directors of the East India Company. Several other important social reforms distinguished the peaceful

administration of Pitt, especially the consolidation of the customs and the establishment of a new sinking fund.

The session for 1785 commenced its sittings January 25, and on April 18 following Mr Pitt introduced his great measure—that of Parliamentary reform. Briefly summarised, in this, his third Reform Bill, he proposed that thirty-six boroughs, each returning two members, should be disfranchised; that different counties, the Metropolis, and some large cities and towns, now unrepresented, should return the seventy-two members; that the franchise in counties should be extended to copyholders; that, as in the lapse of time, other boroughs might become decayed, provision should be made for transferring their members to unrepresented flourishing towns; no borough to be disfranchised by compulsion, but on petition, signed by two-thirds of the electors; that the owners and holders of disfranchised boroughs should receive a compensation in money; and that a fund of £1,000,000 should be established, out of which such compensation should be paid. After a long debate leave to bring in the bill was refused by 248 to 174 votes. This was the last effort of Pitt in favour of Parliamentary reform.

During the whole of this time Irish affairs continued in a most unsatisfactory state, and the year 1786 was still more unsatisfactory to those who wished for the establishment of a frank and free intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland. On January 31, 1788, Prince Charles Stuart, better known as the Young Pretender, who had resided on the Continent since his flight from Scotland in 1746, died at Florence, the last years of his life being spent in dissipation. His brother, Cardinal York, was now the sole legitimate descendant of the House of Stuart, and on his death, several years afterwards, the family which had given four kings to England and many more to Scotland became extinct.

The last session of this the fifth Parliament of George III. commenced its sittings on January 21, 1790. On May 5 a message from the King informed Parliament that two British vessels had been captured by a Spanish officer on the north-west coast of America, at the same time asking for the support that might be necessary for the maintenance of the honour of the British crown and the rights of its subjects. The motion was finally negatived by both Houses. As a consequence the King, on June 10, prorogued Parliament, and the next day it was dissolved by proclamation, the new Parliament being summoned to meet at Westminster, November 25, 1790.

The elections took place in the latter part of June and early in July, and caused but little excitement. It was expected that the popular feeling in favour of Pitt would have subsided, and that if Fox did not secure a majority he would at any rate considerably

increase his following in the new House. The result, however, was just the reverse of this, for the supporters of Pitt were even more numerous in the new Parliament than the one that had been dissolved. The Cheshire members were:—

30 George III.

Met November 26, 1790. Dissolved May 20, 1796.

CHESHIRE.—Sir Robert Salusbury Cotten, bart.  
John Crewe of Crewe, esq.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.  
Robert Grosvenor, viscount Belgrave.

It was in this session, on April 2, 1791, that Wilberforce moved for a committee to consider the African Slave Trade, with a view to a resolution for its immediate abolition. Pitt on this occasion supported his friend in one of the most eloquent speeches on record.

On April 30, in the following year (1792), Mr Charles Grey gave notice of a motion for reform in the representation of the people—he who, as Earl Grey and Prime Minister forty years afterwards, carried the first Reform Bill.

The French Revolution was at this time approaching the climax; Louis XVI. was compelled to submit to the decrees of the National Assembly, who, not content with abolishing royalty, beheaded both the king and queen, an era succeeding marked by a political fanaticism of which history affords no other example. The immediate effect in England of the French Revolution was to divide the country once more into two distinct parties of Whigs and Tories, whose comparative importance was faithfully reflected in Parliament. It is from this eventful period that the Radical party may be said to date their existence.

Nearly the whole of the time of this Parliament was spent in discussing the *pros.* and *cons.* of the French Revolution, together with the then unsettled state of Ireland, the Protestant portion of the population in the last-named country being greatly discontented with the imperfect system of representation in the Irish Parliament.

Thomas Grosvenor, the senior member for the city of Chester, died in February, 1795, aged 62, and his fourth son, General Thomas Grosvenor, was elected to represent the city in his stead.

1795.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

In the year following came the general election, the result, so far as Cheshire was concerned being:—

36 George III.

Met September 27, 1796. Dissolved June 29, 1802.

CHESHIRE.—John Crewe, of Crewe, esq.  
Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.  
Robert Grosvenor, viscount Belgrave.

During the existence of this Parliament the eighteenth century terminated and the nineteenth began. The commencements of another year, of another decade, of another century, are rarely marked by any corresponding changes in the affairs of nations; but they are suggestive of comparisons with other similar eras. At the commencement of the eighteenth century it has been estimated, upon the imperfect data of the Parish Registers, that England and Wales contained a population of five and a half million souls. In 1801 the first census was taken, when it was found that England and Wales contained about nine million people. Of these 186,100 were in the county of Chester. These figures, compared with the previous estimates, show a growth and development exceeded by but few of the remaining counties. Thus in 1700 Cheshire was estimated to contain 107,000, and in 1750, 131,600. To-day it has a population of about 680,000, having more than trebled its population during the past eighty years. For a description of Cheshire at this period let us see what Dr. Aikin says in his *History of Forty Miles Round Manchester* (p. 45.) "Cheshire, like Lancashire, was, for a large portion of the county, in the transition state from agriculture to manufactures, in the middle of the reign of George III. Its rich pastures and its dairy farms have only been improved in degree, but not in kind. Its arable was imperfectly cultivated, without green crops. One mode of raising the productiveness, both of arable and pasture, was forbidden by a barbarous fiscal policy. The foul or dirtied salt, produced in hundreds of tons by the saltworks of Cheshire, was utterly lost, the heavy duty levied upon refuse salt preventing its use as manure."

This Parliament will ever be remembered for two great measures that were placed upon the statute book. One was the proposal by Mr Pitt in December, 1798, for a tax upon the incomes of the people, being upon a graduated scale at ten per cent., commencing with incomes above £60 a year. This he estimated would yield ten millions to the revenue upon a total income of something like one hundred millions.

The other great measure introduced and passed was the union of Ireland with England, with one Parliament for the two countries. By the Act of Union, which passed the Irish Parliament in March, 1800, the three countries of England, Scotland, and Ireland were formed into one kingdom, under the title of Great Britain and Ireland, the latter country being represented in the Imperial Parliament by 28 temporal and four spiritual peers elected for life, and by 100 commoners. It was not, however, without a severe struggle and the judicious application of bribes that the ministry succeeded in persuading the Irish Parliament to surrender their separate nationality, and to become as it were a province of England; but no one can for an instant doubt the advisability of this

measure, which to a great extent annihilated the vicious distinctions of race, and placed the conqueror and the conquered on an equal footing; and, notwithstanding all the ills that that unlucky country has since endured, there can be no doubt that she has advanced two centuries in civilisation since the passing of that important measure.

42, George III.

Met November 16, 1802. Dissolved October 24, 1806

CHESTER.—Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
William Egerton, of Tatton, esq.

CHESTER — Thomas Grosvenor, esq.  
Robert Grosvenor, viscount Belgrave.

This election was consequent on the retirement of Mr Pitt, whose haughty pride would in no wise allow him to yield until he had completely crushed Bonaparte, then First Consul of France, and his army. Our merchants and people, however, were anxious for the war, which had been raging since 1793, should be brought to a close, and thus it was that he retired in order to facilitate an arrangement by a new government under Mr Addington, afterwards Lord St. Edmund. The result was that the Treaty of Amiens was signed. It may be of interest here to quote the opinions of two historians as to the probable results of this treaty. Macaulay, in his *Biographies*, says (p. 217): "The Treaty of Amiens had scarcely been signed when the restless ambition and the insupportable insolence of the First Consul convinced the great body of the English people that the peace so eagerly welcomed was only a precarious armistice." Thiers, in his *History of the Consulate* (vol. xvii., p. 845) says: "The Treaty of Amiens had been signed only a few months, and their joy at the peace had a little cooled amongst the English, when there remained before their eyes . . . the grandeur of France, unhappily a little disguised in the person of the First Consul, who displayed . . . the attitude of master, not only in the affairs of France, but in the affairs of Europe. His language, full of genius and ambition, offended the pride of the English; his devouring activity disturbed their repose." What Macaulay called "insupportable insolence" Thiers described as "language full of genius and ambition."

Before the close of 1802 there occurred a vacancy in the representation of the city of Chester by the succession of Robert, Viscount Belgrave, to the Earldom of Grosvenor on the death of his father, August 1, 1802. He was succeeded in the representation by his cousin:

1802.

CHESTER. — Richard Erie Brax Grosvenor.

The Treaty of Amiens was unsatisfactory to the English, and the renewal of hostilities with France was to be expected, commenced in the spring of the following year; but it was not until 1805 that the

events of serious moment took place. Meanwhile the vacillating Addington had been superseded in the ministry by Mr Pitt, and Bonaparte had caused himself to be proclaimed Emperor at Notre Dame (December 2, 1804). Napoleon, by various means, had succeeded in gaining possession of the naval resources of Holland, Italy, Spain, and Portugal, so that France had become a first-rate maritime power. Nelson, who at this time was in England, offered his services, and left Portsmouth in September, 1805, to take charge of the English fleet, then numbering twenty-seven sail of the line, the allied forces numbering thirty-three. On October 21, 1805, Nelson came up with the enemy off Cape Trafalgar, and it was early on that day that he caused the signal to be telegraphed to the fleet which conveyed the immortal words, "England expects that every man will do his duty." The result, as every schoolboy knows, resulted in the complete victory gained by Nelson over the combined fleets, thus reasserting the claim of Britain to the empire of the seas. Here it was that Nelson lost his life, and on January 9, 1806, the body of the hero was borne in state to St. Paul's. "The death of Nelson," says Southey, "was felt in England as a public calamity," and only recently we stood before Flaxman's monument of him in the crypt of St. Paul's, where he is depicted leaning on an anchor with a rope coiled at his feet. On one side of the pedestal is the British lion; on the other Britannia is pointing two young sailors to the hero for their imitation. We were also reminded of Southey's lines;—

To thy country thou cam'st back,  
Thou conqueror, to triumphal Albion cam'st  
A corse. I saw before thy hearse pass on  
The comrades of thy perils and renown,  
The frequent tear upon their dauntless breasts  
Fell. I beheld the pomp thick gather'd round  
The trophied car that bore thy grac'd remains  
Through arm'd ranks, and a nation gazing on.  
Bright glow'd the sun, and not a cloud distain'd  
Heaven's arch of gold, but all was gloom beneath.  
A holy and unutterable pang  
Thrill'd on the soul. Awe and mute anguish fell  
On all. Yet high the public bosom thrill'd  
With triumph.

Within a fortnight of the event above recorded England was destined to suffer the loss of another of her sons, William Pitt, Prime Minister of England. He died January 23, 1806, on the twenty-fifth anniversary the day on which he first entered Parliament. And so was the end of his struggle for thirteen years, against the power of revolutionary France, against the Directory, against the Consulate, against the Empire. Though cheered by Nelson's success, it was from the wounds of Napoleon's successes on land that he died with a broken heart.

On April 21, 1806, William Egerton of Tatton, one of the representatives for the county of Chester, died, and his successor appointed shortly after was—

1806

CHESHIRE.—Davies Davenport, of Capesthorpe, esq.

On the death of Pitt a new Ministry was formed under Lord Grenville, with Fox as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; but it was soon evident that the Ministry of "All the Talents," as the coalition was termed, could not exist long, and in October, 1806, a dissolution was resolved upon. When the new Parliament met on December 15, it was found that the members for the county and city of Chester were:—

47, George III.,

Met December 15, 1806. Dissolved April 29, 1807.

CHESHIRE.—Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
Davies Davenport, of Capesthorpe, esq.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

Richard Erle Drax Grosvenor, Esq.

The great work of this session was the Abolition of the Slave Trade. This measure was read a third time March 18, 1806, and received the royal assent a week later. On the same day (March 25) the Grenville Ministry delivered up the seals of office. The immediate cause of the termination of the Ministry is thus stated in a letter from Lord Grenville to the Speaker ("Lord Colchester's Diary," ii., 103):—"On the merits of the measure which has led to this consequence, I fear we are not wholly agreed in opinion. But that measure (the Catholic Relief Bill) is not the point on which the Government is now at issue. We had decided to let it drop; but there has since been required of us a written and positive engagement never, under any circumstances, to propose in the closet any measure of concession to the Catholics, or even connected with the question." The alarmists of the Church took part with the King; and the Ministers, knowing the value of the old popular cry of "No Popery," dissolved the Parliament at the end of its first session, April 29, 1807.

The new Ministry, with the Duke of Portland for a nominal head, but of which Mr Perceval, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, was the real leader, assumed the reins of state, June 22, when it was found that the elections had resulted in an unusually strong contingent in favour of the new Government. On June 26, on an amendment to the address, it was found that of 505 members present, 356 voted with the Government. The representatives from the county and city of Chester were—

47, George III.

Met June 22, 1807. Dissolved September 12, 1812.

CHESHIRE.—Thomas Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, esq.  
Davies Davenport, of Capesthorpe, esq.

CHESTER.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

John Egerton, esq.

It may be worthy of note that from this time, when Mr John Egerton, of Oulton, succeeded Mr Drax Grosvenor in the representation of the city of Chester in

Parliament, the respective parties of "Grosvenor" and "Egerton" took up the character which for so many years divided the electors of Chester into two distinct local (though not party) lines. As early as 1784, when Mr Crewe, of Bolesworth Castle, and Mr Roger Barnston stood against Mr Thomas Grosvenor and Mr Wilbraham Bootle, we find that a sort of anti-Grosvenor feeling had been growing up among the Freemen of the ancient city. But it would appear that at that time even it was more political than local, Grosvenor and Bootle being ancient supporters of Mr Pitt, Crewe and Barnston being equally ardent supporters of Mr Fox.

In this Parliament domestic legislation was almost at a standstill, the Government being chiefly engaged in raising the money necessary to enable Sir John Moore and Sir Arthur Wellesley, afterwards the Duke of Wellington, to aid Spain in resisting the usurpation and tyranny of the French under Napoleon. This resulted in the battle of Corunna, January 16, 1809, where Sir John Moore gained a decisive victory over Marshal Soult, although at the cost of his own life. These were followed by the Peninsula campaigns under Sir Arthur Wellesley, which were terminated by the decisive battle of Toulouse, fought on the same day that Napoleon signed his abdication at Fontainebleau, April 10, 1814.

Whilst these wars were in progress on the Continent incidents were transpiring within our own borders which should find a mention in these pages. On the death of the Prime Minister, the Duke of Portland, October 29, 1809, it was necessary that a new Administration should be formed. The Cabinet was reconstructed under the leadership of Mr Perceval, and it was during his short term of office was celebrated for George III. what Great Britain is to-day preparing to do for his descendant, Queen Victoria—the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of his accession to the English throne. The people fell in with the proposed jubilee with a very hearty spontaneity, and for a time were gay amidst bell-ringing, bonfires, and dinners in civic halls. The festivities were almost immediately followed by the passing of the Regency Bill, which virtually brought the reign of George III. to a close on February 5, 1811. More than one prophecy is extant that the present occupant of the throne will follow the precedent thus created, and that in June, 1887, the Prince of Wales will be appointed Regent during the remainder of the Queen's lifetime.

On May 11, 1812, occurred the assassination of Mr Spencer Perceval, the Prime Minister. The lobby of the House of Commons was full of noisy politicians discussing the recent grant of £100,000 a year to the new Regent, the probabilities of a war with America, the outrages of the Luddites, and other similar engrossing topics. At about a quarter past five

a slight murmur announced the arrival of the popular and courteous Premier. At that very moment a sharp ringing report of a pistol was heard, then a person with his hand pressing his left breast rushed from the cluster of members standing round the entrance, staggered and fell into the arms of Mr Francis Phillips, of Bank Hall, Stockport. With the aid of Mr W. Smith, the member for Norwich, he was carried to the secretary's room, when it was observed that it was the Prime Minister, Mr Spencer Perceval. In ten minutes he was dead. The assassin, a bankrupt Liverpool merchant, named Billingham, was discovered. Without awaiting the proofs of his supposed insanity, he was hurriedly tried on the 15th of the same month at the Old Bailey, before Sir James Mansfield, and executed there three days later. Mr Perceval having died comparatively poor, Parliament awarded the sum of £50,000 to be vested in trustees for the benefit of his widow and twelve children.

The Luddites, just now referred to, derived their name from General Lud, their mythical leader, that awe-striking name and title being, however, borne by several of their chiefs at different times and in different places. The deplorable outrages committed by these men—the breaking into houses to seize fire-arms and obtain money for the purposes of their mischievous and dangerous association—lasted for nearly forty years, during which time, with the exception of a few lulls, the great manufacturing districts were in a disturbed and lawless state. All social diseases have their climax. The night, they say, is darkest just before the dawn. To miseries and misfortunes there is a culminating period. It was in 1812 that the Luddites were fiercest, maddest, and most desperate, deriding all philosophy and forgetting all the tenets of political economy in the fierceness of their indignation. But the times were hard everywhere, and a shilling did not bring them what it had brought before, and what it brings now. Men worked hard week in and week out, and barely managed to keep the wolf from the door. The poor man had borne the contemptuous denial of his rights, the incessant suspension of the laws of the land, trade monopolies, tyrannical and heartless Governments, civil and religious disabilities, and unjust and useless wars; but dear bread—that was the last straw that broke the camel's back. The artisan only saw in the new machinery means to still further enrich his oppressors and starve himself. The panacea seemed to be combination. General Lud got recruits in Cheshire, Derbyshire, Lancashire, and Nottinghamshire. There were food riots at Stockport, Macclesfield, Sheffield, and Mansfield. From shattering the stocking-frames they began to talk of upsetting the Government. Religion was even pressed into the rioters' service, and a crusading spirit inculcated on those who joined the Luddites. The disorders came to a head in 1812, and resulted in the execution on

June 10, 1812, as recently recorded in *CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES*, of Temple and Thompson, at Chester, for taking part in the Luddite riots at Stockport, and of seventeen at the York Assizes held early in the following year; a wholesale execution which has since had no parallel in England. The bill for rendering frame breaking a capital punishment was brought before the House of Commons in February, 1812, and remained in force till March 1, 1814.

The next general election was in the autumn of 1812, and in the fifty-third year of King George's reign. The representatives returned to it for the county and city of Chester were:—

53 George III.

Met November 24, 1812. Dissolved June 10, 1813.

*CHESHIRE*.—Wilbraham Egerton, of Tatton, esq.

Davies Davenport, of Capesthorns, esq.

*CHESTER*.—Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

John Egerton, esq.

The candidates for the city of Chester were General Grosvenor, Sir Richard Brooke, bart., John Egerton, and Edward V. Townshend, and the election from first to last was a fierce contest between the adherents of the Egertons and those who lent their aid or owed allegiance to the Grosvenors. Considering the number on the register the expenses were simply enormous; the contest having cost Grosvenor £30,000 and Egerton £15,000. The result of the poll was as follows:—

General Thomas Grosvenor .....	(W)	637
John Egerton .....	(C)	602
Sir Richard Brooke, bart. ....	(W)	575
Edward V. Townshend .....	(C)	537

During this Parliament the call for reform, hitherto but feebly heard in the House of Commons, came to be a terror to the Government, because (says Brougham) it was "espoused by persons whose conduct excited no small degree of disgust out of doors." It passed away from the patronage of a few aristocratic lovers of popularity, to be advocated by lovers of "twopenny trash," and to be discussed and organised by "Hampden Clubs" of hungry philanthropists and unemployed "weaver boys." Sam Bamford, than whom a more reliable authority could scarcely be found for describing the feeling of the working classes, and who thought it no disgrace to call himself "a Radical," says (vol. i.—8): "At this time [1816] the writings of William Cobbett became of great authority; they were read on nearly every cottage hearth in the manufacturing districts. Their influence was speedily visible." The testimony of Bamford shows that, in this early period of their history, the Hampden Clubs limited their object to the attainment of Parliamentary Reform. They contended for the right of every male above eighteen years of age, and who paid taxes, to vote for the election of members of Parliament, and that Parliaments should be elected

annually. These demands Bamford (vol. i., chap. 2) describes as "the moderate views and wishes of the Reformers of those days." He adds, "It was not until we became infested by spies, incendiaries, and their dupes—distracting, misleading, and betraying—that physical force was mentioned amongst us. After that our moral power waned; and what we gained by the accession of demagogues, we lost by their criminal violence and the estrangement of real friends."

In this way matters progressed until the opening of the fifth session of this Parliament, January 28, 1817, when a report was presented by secret committee in which the objects of the Hampden clubs and Spencean societies were described not only to be "the overthrow of all the political institutions of the kingdom, but also such a subversion of the rights and principles of property as must necessarily lead to general confusion, plunder, and bloodshed." As a consequence Bills were brought in and speedily passed by large majorities to guard against and avert the dangers which had been so alarmingly proclaimed. The first of these renewed the Act for the prevention and punishment of attempts to seduce soldiers and sailors from their allegiance; the second extended to the Prince Regent all the safeguards against treasonable attempts which secure the actual sovereign; the third was for the prevention of seditious meetings; whilst the last of the four gave to the executive power the fearful right of imprisonment without trial. In other words, the Habeas Corpus Act was suspended.

The Habeas Corpus Suspension Act was passed March 3, 1817; the Bill for restraining seditious meetings did not become law until March 29 in the same year. Within a week of the first-named Act becoming law, and before the magistrates throughout the country had received any accession to their powers as to the dispersion of tumultuous assemblies, an occurrence took place at Manchester which was at once evidence of the agitated condition of distressed multitudes in the manufacturing districts, and of the extreme weakness of their purpose. This was the famous march of the Blanketeers. The Blanket meeting, which took place on that ever to be remembered spot, St. Peter's Fields, Manchester, was so called because many of the vast body of workmen who attended were observed to have blankets, rugs, etc., rolled up and tied knapsack-like on their backs. The magistrates read the Riot Act, and the meeting was dispersed by the military; three hundred of the men commenced a straggling march through Cheshire on their way to London to present their petitions to Parliament. About 200 reached as far as Macclesfield, followed by a body of Yeomanry where wholesale arrests were made. The march of the Blanketeers was thus brought to an end, such as were not arrested returning home, or hid themselves for the time being for fear of arrest.

Turning, for a moment, from domestic affairs, we find that during the existence of this Parliament most important affairs had been transpiring abroad. First came the war with America, in which an unsuccessful attempt was made to capture Canada. This resulted in the treaty signed at Ghent, December 24, 1814.

On the high road between Cannes and Antibes is a small tavern, rendered famous by this inscription:—"Napoléon I. au Golfe de Jouan—de barqua à Mars, reposa dans cette même propriété." That hero had successfully achieved his perilous voyage from Elba, and once more stood on the soil of France at three o'clock in the afternoon of that memorable 1st of March, 1815. This landing in the Gulf of St Juan was the introducing scene to the great drama called "The Hundred Days." These count from March 13, 1815, when Napoleon assumed the government, to June 22 in the same year, when he abdicated. In the interval was fought the battle of Waterloo, June 18, 1815. So complete was the defeat of the French on that occasion, that Napoleon, who had often rallied his troops after heavy losses, was totally unable to make head with the scattered remnant left from the field of Waterloo; and after seeing his capital again in the hands of the allies, he surrendered himself on board a British man-of-war, and was conveyed to the island of St. Helens, in the South Atlantic, where he was detained for the remainder of his life.

On June 10, 1818, the Prince Regent dissolved Parliament, the writs for the new Parliament being made returnable on August 4 following. The elections were over by the middle of July, and resulted in an accession of strength to the Whig party. The Cheshire members were:—

58, George III.

Met January 14, 1819. Dissolved February 29, 1820.

CHEESHIRE.—Wilbraham Egerton, of Tatten, esq.

Davies Davenport, of Capesthorpe, esq.

CHESTER.—Richard, Viscount Belgrave.

Thomas Grosvenor, esq.

At this election the Egertons were completely ousted from the representation of the city of Chester, nor were they ever again allowed to share that honour with the Grosvenors, although each succeeding election was hotly contested and dearly paid for. It was not until the passing of the Reform Bill in 1832 that a representative of that family was enabled to enter Parliament as member for one of the divisions of the county. The voting at the election in Chester city in this, the last Parliament of George III., was as follows:—

Richard, Viscount Belgrave.....(W) 818

Thomas Grosvenor.....(W) 797

Sir J. G. Egerton.....(C) 607

John Williams .....(C) 522

In this Session the question of Parliamentary Re-

form was again agitated by Sir Francis Burdett, and the occasion was remarkable for the first declaration of the opinions of Lord John Russell, who had entered the House of Commons in 1813 at the age of twenty-one. He intimated that he should propose the adoption of a principle which had not yet been recognised by the House—the principle of admitting the unrepresented large towns into a share of the representation. He would also propose the disfranchisement of such boroughs as were notoriously corrupt. And now we come to an incident of more than local importance. At a great open-air meeting at Stockport on June 22, 1819, Sir Charles Wolsley, Bart., was the chairman, there commencing a career which ended in the goal, and might have ended on the scaffold. He told his audience that he was one of those who had mounted the ramparts of the Bastille at the commencement of the French Revolution, and he would never shrink from attacking the Bastilles of his own country. The Government naturally became alarmed, and caused Sir Charles and Joseph Harrison, a dissenting preacher, to be indicted for seditious words spoken by them at that meeting. Subsequently, at a great assembly in Smithfield, London, where Orator Hunt presided, Harrison was arrested; and on being conveyed to Stockport, Birch, the constable who arrived there with him, was attacked and shot by McGhinnes, facts already recorded in the pages of *CHEESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES*. (See vol. vi. pp 190) These events produced great alarm, nor was this alarm lessened when it became known that the Reformers had arranged for another great meeting in St. Peter's Field, Manchester, on August 16 following, under the presidency of Mr. Hunt. It is calculated that over 80,000 persons were present, the Stockport contingent numbering 5000, in addition to a female association. The procession from Stockport was headed by a band of music and a coach containing Orator Hunt, Sir Charles Wolsley, and Messrs. Woodhouse, Harrison, and Johnson, of Stockport. All the neighbouring towns of Lancashire and Derbyshire were represented by delegates or large bodies of working men. A recent writer adds:—"The magistrates, infatuated and incompetent, determined to arrest Hunt in the presence of the meeting. In addition to the civil force the magistrates had at their disposal a squadron of Cheshire Yeomanry Cavalry, 400 in number, three squadrons of Hussars, and two pieces of artillery. The Riot Act was read from a window whence none in the meeting could hear it and the raw, almost undisciplined, Yeomen charged into the dense and unarmed mass of men and women. The services of the Hussars were required to extricate the Yeomen, who were wedged among the innocent and horror-stricken crowd. The soldiers behaved with great calmness and forbearance, but the Yeomen used their swords with murderous effect. Eight persons were killed outright, and about 600 wounded. The battle of Waterloo had recently been fought, and the

bloody field suggested a name for this sad occurrence, namely, "The Peterloo Massacre." The ringleaders were all arrested and tried at the assizes. Hunt was sentenced to two-and-a-half years' imprisonment—(a fact he did not forget to remind the people of when ten years later he got into Parliament as the avowed champion of the working classes)—Joseph Johnson, of Stockport, one year's imprisonment; Sir Charles Wolseley and the Rev. Joseph Harrison, eighteen months' imprisonment, and to find bail for their good behaviour for five years. Harrison was tried during his imprisonment on another count for treasonable utterances at Stockport, and was sentenced to twelve months' additional imprisonment. After serving his terms he returned to Stockport, where he died April 16, 1848.

Parliament had adjourned to February 15, 1820, when an event not unexpected called the Houses together at an earlier period. George III. died at Windsor Castle, January 29, 1820. EDITOR.

## Queries.

REV. JOHN LEVER.—A sermon was preached at the assizes at Lancaster, 24th March, 1771, by the Rev. John Lever, curate of Buxton. Can any reader give me any particulars, when was he born, and to what family did he belong? Was he connected with the Levers of Alkrington or Manchester?

Hulme.

J. LEIGH.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1886.

## Notes.

### MAKING THE MOST OF THE WORLD : A CHESHIRE STORY.

I have read a remarkable book entitled "Making the Most of Both Worlds," and this work has moved me to the very depths of my soul; but as it contained some serious lessons of duty which did not entirely harmonise with my own practical life, I sat down one evening to ponder over the story of my existence, and to try and see for myself why I had failed to attain to that excellence which Mr Arthur maintained was within the reach of all who were earnestly bent upon making the best of both worlds.

I am not a very old woman, but I have seen a good deal of life. My mother died when I was young, and the care of my early years was confided to a step-mother, a good woman—in her own narrow way—but badly educated, and lacking in culture. She had no children of her own, and could not therefore enter into the loving and living mysteries which make up a mother's love. I thus lost the benefits of a mother's loving care, even before I had quite learnt the sad lesson that I was a motherless child.

But my father was a good, pious, and tender-hearted man, who loved me with a great love; and being also a strict Nonconformist, he set to work upon fixing my character according to those models of his own sect which had commended themselves to his conscience and to his heart. But like most men he knew very little about the inner life of a girl, and because I happened to look good, accompanied him to his chapel regularly, and seemed, at least, to take an interest in the Bible, he concluded I was perfect in all my ways, and that God was supreme in all my thoughts.

He had been in narrow circumstances at one time, but he afterwards became successful as a tradesman he made money, and then sent me to a first-class school to be educated. I possessed a faculty for learning, and soon became a forward scholar; but I learnt from my school-fellows a great many innocent tricks, which had before been unknown to me, and among them the art of telling white lies, of making love, of duping men who trusted in me; but I somehow managed to keep up the airs of a religious girl, notwithstanding without possessing, however, in my heart, the real elements of Christian truth.

When I had grown into womanhood I saw that Dissent was not practicable, and I gradually found my way to Church, where I soon found the kind of occupation which was likely to give me pleasure. I could attend assemblies and balls, and then visit the poor in their homes; I could play at croquet and attend garden parties, and then take part in cottage prayer meetings, and give religious advice to the poor who attended them. Thus, step by step, I learnt to play the flirt, and then to kneel at the altar and to partake of the Lord's supper, just as if I had been a true follower of the Saviour who had ordained it in remembrance of Himself, when my heart was in the world, and I loved to follow in its ways. In short, I enjoyed my life thoroughly, and all the more so because I knew that I could be all things to all men; that my parson would bless me as "a good girl," and my partners at the dance would as willingly declare I was "a charming young lady to dance with."

My years passed lightly over my head, and I was making the most of the world, when suddenly a revivalist preacher came across my path, and having been frightened by him into a conviction that all was not right with me, I became "a convert" to his



Christianity, and for a time I found my chief consolation in following out the directions he gave me. But girls will be girls, and just as his teaching lost its hold on me I longed for the sweets of the old gay life I had once enjoyed; and slowly, but surely, I put Christ away from my heart, and gave myself up again to the frivolities of the world.

How long this would have lasted I cannot say, but the death of my dear father sobered me very suddenly, and in my agony I tried to get hold of the Saviour again. In a few short months I ceased to mourn for my father, and then comforted myself with the reflection that he was very happy in heaven. Just then my parish priest wormed himself again into my affections, and gave me work to occupy my thoughts, so before very long I found myself in the full enjoyment of the pleasures of the world, and more than ever in sweet harmony with the Church.

All seemed to have gone well with me, but I fell in love with a gentleman of my acquaintance, and after a happy period of courtship I induced him to promise to marry me. My priest did not like him, and he used his influence over my mind to induce me to abandon him. I knew that I was doing wrong; my conscience upbraided me, but good and kind friends upheld me in my wrong doing until at last they persuaded me I was in the path of duty in refusing to marry a Dissenter. I heeded his agony no more, and threw myself head-long into the gaiety of life, always taking care, however, to maintain the outward marks of a good woman, so as to secure the praise of men, however much I might have lost the approval of God. Then this book of Mr Arthur's fell into my hands, and liking the looks of it, I read it through. In the stillness of my chamber I occasionally felt the pangs of conscience, for I knew that all was not well with me. One night I beheld my father's shadow at my side, and he looked pitifully upon me; there was a sadness in his eyes that frightened me and, I then prayed to God for help, but none came to me, and for many long weeks the misery of the damned seemed to have been mine.

A friend lent me "Letters from Hell" to read, and that terrible story filled me with alarm, for I saw in it how surely men and women made a hell for themselves in this world, and that the hell to come was to be made up of the consciousness that we were but living there over again in torment the very same lives we had lived in the flesh. How terrible the thought was that we ourselves, by our misconduct to others when on earth, had helped to fill the hell of the Bible with souls who had been either lost or driven to perdition by us, is more than I can bear to dwell upon, but between Mr Arthur's book and this one, I could have prayed—had I but dared to pray at all—that God would in mercy send the angel of death to visit me, and so end my miserable existence on earth.

A good man and true who loved my dear father,

heard of my sad condition, and out of his love for his old friend he came to visit me. He invited me with great tenderness to open my heart to him, and when after some delay I consented to do so, and I had told him my story, he proceeded to teach me the way of salvation, and then he led me to the Saviour's feet for pardon. I have since realised in my own soul how hard is the way of transgressors, and I can now see the full beauty of all Mr Arthur's teaching, and how by God's good help we can "make the best of both worlds," and thereby also "make the most of the world that now is."

This is the true story of my life. I have sent it to you for publicity, because I have come to see the dangerous influence of priests in families, and that it is therefore my clear duty to urge every member of my sex to avoid these gentlemen, as they would hope for Salvation through Christ the Just, whose province it is to save us from perdition, but in His own good way.

MARIAN F.

#### A GRIM RECORD OF OLD CHESTER CASTLE.

##### II.

The following is a continuation of the record of executions at Chester Castle, from page 284:—

1841, April 24. Bartholomew Murray, aged 18, convicted at the last assizes of the wilful murder of Joseph and Mary Cooke, at Peover, executed this day about twelve o'clock, and his body was afterwards delivered to the constable of the castle (Mr Dunstan) for interment. He was conveyed from the castle at half-past four in the usual way. Mr William John Sellar, sheriff.

1843, September 2. James Ratcliffe, aged 58, convicted at the last Chester Assizes of the wilful murder of his wife at Stockport. Thomas Huxley, sheriff.

1844, December 28. Mary Gallop, aged 20, convicted at the last Chester Assizes of the wilful murder of her father by poison. Edward Tilston, sheriff.

1848, April 22. William Bate, aged 30, convicted at the last Chester Assizes of the wilful murder of William Wyatt, at Adlington, was this day executed in my presence at the hour of eight o'clock in the morning. John Trevor, sheriff of the city of Chester.

1853, December 20. William Jackson, aged 35, convicted at the special goal delivery on the 3rd instant, for the wilful murder of his two children, was this day executed in my presence at the hour of ten minutes past eight o'clock in the morning. John Jones, sheriff of the city of Chester and county of the same city.

1857, August 28. John Blagg, aged 47, convicted at the Summer Assizes on the 1st August instant for the wilful murder of John Bebbington, was this day executed in my presence at the hour of eight o'clock in the morning. John Jones, sheriff of the city of Chester and county of the same city.

1861, August 27. Martin Doyle, aged 26, convicted at the Summer Assizes on the 3rd August instant, for cutting and wounding, with intent to kill and murder, Jane Bragine, at Church Lawton, was this day executed in my presence at the hour of eight o'clock in the morning. James Rowe, sheriff of the city of Chester and county of the same city.

1863, December 28. Alice Hewitt, convicted at the special gaol of delivery on Thursday, the 3rd December, for the murder of Mary Bailey at Stockport, was this day executed in my presence at the hour of ten minutes past eight in the morning. Robert Littler, sheriff of the city of Chester and county of the same city.

I have this morning, at five a.m., removed Samuel Griffith from Chester Castle to this city gaol for execution, by warrant of Sir Colin Blackburne, on Monday next, April 23rd, 1866. Charles Dutton, sheriff of the city and county of Chester. City Gaol, Chester, April 21st, 1866, 5-15.—I have this morning caused the above-named Samuel Griffiths to be executed in my presence by George Smith, of Dudley, St. Ffordshire, at eight o'clock a.m., for the murder of Isaac Newport, of Barrow, in the county of Chester, and the said Samuel Griffiths was afterwards buried on the south side of this gaol, being the gaol wherein he was last

confined, according to the Act of Parliament, at 9 a.m. Charles Dutton, sheriff of the city of Chester and county of the same city. City Gaol, Chester, April 23rd, 1866.

EDITOR.

## Replies.

### HARRISON AND STRETHILL FAMILIES.

If Mr Hamerton Crump will refer to Dr. G. W. Marshall's "Collections for a Genealogical Account of the Family of Comberbach," London, 1866, pp. 53-4, he will find a pedigree of Harrison of Cranage, which will probably supply him with the information he asks for. I have been able to make a few additions to this pedigree, which will appear under the township of Cranage, in my "History of Sandbach," now in the press.

J. P. EARWAKER.

Pensarn, Abergelle, North Wales

On reference to the STOCKPORT ADVERTISER NOTES AND QUERIES, vol. iii., pp. 142-146, your correspondent will find several contributions relating to the Strethill family and its connections.

A READER.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11 1886,

## Notes.

### THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE YEAR.

I met an old gentleman the other evening who said he remembered King George the Third's Jubilee year, and he also reverently "hoped to live to see the Queen's jubilee observed loyally all over the country." There are many of your readers who will join with me in praying that this "hope" of his may be fulfilled to the letter.

This ancient one is a devoted antiquary; very loyal to her Majesty, but he believes that "the good old days of George the Third" were far happier ones than those in which we live. I, who have myself lived in the reigns of George the Third, George the Fourth, William the Fourth, and during the half century of Victoria's rule, may be allowed to differ from this antiquarian sage, and to say, the Queen's reign has been a very bright chapter in our history, if not the brightest, since the Hanoverians came to the Crown. Our "Old George" was as loyal to his country and to his own somewhat

narrow prejudices as a man could be; but his loyalty to things as they were did not bring happiness to us nor to our fathers who lived through his reign; and although Providence has kindly and wisely over-ruled many of "Old George's" kingly mistakes for our good, we can still afford to let the ancient ones now living look back lovingly upon his "good old times." As for his son George, the less we remember of him or of his works the better will it be for our morals; for since Charles the Second's days England has not seen so great a debauchee on her throne, and it is well for him and for us that the Divorce Court had not been founded as one of the reforming institutions of the country before he passed away to a court where kings and their victims will have to appear rebbed of all their earthly authority, and have to account for all their sins.

As for the kind, genial, sailor king, William, there is not much to say, good, bad, or indifferent but in his short reign sprang into life the chief elements of our future greatness. All the slavish fear which had kept men in the dust then began to perish, and although the masses of the people

knew very little about the reforms they were crying out for, they just knew enough of themselves to qualify them to ask for bread when they wanted it, and not for stones as their fathers had been content to accept. So that when her Majesty in 1837 acceded to the Crown, she had subjects to rule over who felt they were men, and upon the whole they have conducted themselves accordingly. And now, when the waning year of 1886 is coming to its close, and the Jubilee year of 1887 is at the door, we ask ourselves how we can besittingly evince our affection for the Queen by doing honour to her upon so great and exceptional an occasion. The answer to that mental enquiry will come in many forms, and, with one rare exception, every reply to it will be animated by a true feeling of loyalty and reverence to, and for, the Royal lady who has been for so long a loving mother to her people.

I am old enough to remember that when she came to the throne the thirst for knowledge was making itself felt all over the land. The *Penny Magazine*, the *Saturday Magazine*, and *Chamber's Journal* were started to meet this pressing need of an enquiring people. Schools and literary institutions became quickly multiplied, and to the great advantage of the community a cheap press followed, and out of it sprang the "Local Notes and Queries," under various titles, which have since become necessities of life to us. For many years the London Antiquarian Society lifted its head high, as the society through which the provincials were to learn nearly all that could be told about the old things which had passed away. Now we have local antiquarian societies all over the country, and the useful work they have been doing is well exemplified in the valuable contributions which have appeared in your well conducted columns. It has struck us more than once, that the local antiquarians might agree to mark the Queen's Jubilee year by taking immediate steps to federate themselves with the parent society in London, and thereby help to form the antiquarians of England and Wales into one corporate and united body.

The "old things" have not passed away; they are hidden, and often lost to sight, until the antiquarians search for them and find them, and then they at once become precious relics of past years, and in very many instances, useful guides to us in our dealings with the daily events of our own lives. These antiquarians are not dull dreamers, but men of active brains, thoughtful, persevering, and practical; they learn, and inwardly digest the

thousand lessons that our forefathers, though dead, speak to us in their works; but as a rule the Londoners take a broader view of these things than the provincials do, just as the provincials take a more practical one than they do, and thus the one set of men can help the other, and in doing so make common to the public a knowledge of men, and of things, which at present is the heritage of but a few of the people who devote attention to them.

I do not, of course, propose that every antiquarian should become a "Fellow" of the parent society, nor that it should abandon the old lines of its procedure; but if local societies become affiliated to it, there is no reason why the members of local societies should not, upon payment of a small annual sum, become Associates of the chief centre. There are thousands of such men all over the country who would esteem that honour at its true value, and if in widening the bounds of the antiquarian society in the manner suggested, a compliment can also be paid to the Sovereign upon her Jubilee, she in turn might confer upon this useful institution some mark of her royal favour, and thereby keep alive for all time to come the remembrance of 1887 as a red year in our history, as well as of the jubilee year that gave rise to it. I have thrown out this suggestion with some diffidence, but with a well-grounded hope that it will not be altogether thrown away; and I do so in your columns because I happen to be

A CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN.

#### BRACEBRIDGE HALL.

Mr T. Cann Hughes having written to the *Literary World* for particulars concerning Washington Irving's "Bracebridge Hall," two correspondents have sent the following widely different replies:

Brereton Hall, Congleton, Cheshire, was the original of Washington Irving's "Bracebridge Hall." On the death of the last Lord Brereton in 1723 the estate passed to Sir Lister Holt, of Aston, in Warwickshire, and subsequently to Abraham Bracebridge, Esq., of Atherstone, Warwickshire, who made the hall his occasional residence, and I have somewhere read that Washington Irving, when he was in England, visited the Bracebridge family and took his ideas of Bracebridge Hall from their old mansion.—N.S.R., Highbury.

The original Bracebridge Hall is, I believe, in Warwickshire, and near Birmingham. The story was written in, and described, the house of Mr Van Woe Washington Irving's brother-in-law.—ISA B.

Mr Cann Hughes has raised a most interesting question, and it is to be hoped that some correspondent to the CHESHIRE NOTES AND QUERIES will come forward with conclusive proof on the question. EDITHA

STOCKPORT PARISH REGISTERS.

VIII.

JULY, 1595.

MARRIED.

8.—George Arderne and Katherine Torkinton.

BURIED.

7.—An Haselworth man that dyed sodenlie in Stock  
27.—The wyfe of Raphe Dickenson of Redich.  
29.—Alex Hibbert of Stock.

AUGUST, 1595.

BAPTISED.

3.—Stephen sonne of John Cheetham of Stock.  
10.—Willm sonne of John Sydebothom of Bradbury.  
16.—Margret daughter of Raffe Wych of Marple.

BURIED.

3.—Thomas Mottram of Northbury.  
9.—The wyfe of Thomas Milnes of Marple.  
19.—The wyfe of Henry Bradshaw of Marple.

SEPTEMBER, 1595.

BAPTISED.

14.—Alex sonne of Thomas Allycock of Stock.  
21.—MARY THE DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM DAUENPORT  
OF BRAMHALL ESQUIER WAS BAPTIZED THE 21TH.  
21.—John and Raffe sonnes of George Brookshaw of  
Bradbury.  
27.—Jane daughter of Thomas Syddall of Heaton.  
28.—Alex sonne of Raphe Knowles of Bradbury.  
28.—Elizabeth daughter of John Burdsell of Marple.  
29.—MARGRET THE DAUGHTER OF RAPHE ARDERNE OF  
BRADBURY GENT WAS BAPTIZED THE 29TH.

MARRIED.

22.—John Robynson and Martha Hibbert.

BURIED.

12.—A yonge man dyed at Robte Cheethams of Woodley  
and was buried.

OCTOBER, 1595.

BAPTISED.

3.—George sonne of John Grantham of Stock sho-  
maker.  
5.—Raphe sonne of John Coup of Bosson.  
5.—Elizabeth daughter of Robte Handforth of Bosson  
12.—Anne daughter of Willm Hall of Bramhall.  
19.—Willm sonne of Willm Fletcher of Stock.  
19.—Margret daughter of John Leighe of Woodley.  
31.—Robte sonne of Willm Rocroft of Bramhall.

MARRIED.

5.—Thomas Garnet and Anne Dane.

BURIED.

18.—A chyld of Raffe Dicksons of Stock named  
George.  
19.—A yong chyld of Willm Rydgways of Bramhall.

24.—The wyfe of Robte Thorniley of the Hallhouse.  
25.—Ales wyf of Humffrey Pownell of Bramhall.  
26.—Margret daughter of John Leighe of Woodley.

NOVEMBER, 1595.

BAPTISED.

2.—Samuel sonne of George Bramhall of Stock.  
14.—Joseph sonne of John Lees of Rediche.  
16.—Samuel sonne of Bondull Ward.  
16.—Willm sonne of Richard Hudson of Brynnington.  
22.—Henrie sonne of Henry flogge of Offerton.  
22.—Andrew sonne of Richard Robinson of Denton.  
22.—Nicholas sonne of Edward Thorpe of Denton.  
28.—John Bowker of Levensam had a chyld baptized.

MARRIED.

3.—Raphe Hyde and Elizabeth Gee.  
17.—Raffe Cleaton and Ann Thorniley.

BURIED.

5.—MARIE THE DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM DAUENPORT  
(OF BRAMHALL ESQUIER WAS BURIED THE 5TH.  
12.—Willm Lees of the Bright Banck.  
21.—Hughe Burdsell of Marple.  
24.—Elizabeth daughter of Reinold Downes of Echulls.  
29.—Edward Dooley of Northbury.

DECEMBER, 1595.

BAPTISED.

7.—Mary daughter of John Wynne of Stockports.  
7.—Willm sonne of Willm Bamford.  
7.—Dorothy daughter of Willm Nicholson of Stock.  
7.—George sonne of Edmund Cocke of Stock.  
14.—Thomas Johnson of Bredbury had a chyld  
baptized.  
24.—Willm Squier of Stock had a chyld baptized.  
25.—Thomason daughter of Gilbert Newton of Stock.

MARRIED.

15.—Willm Henshaw and Elizabeth Brookshaw.  
15.—Lawrence Booth and Ellen Taylor.  
30.—Christopher Ashton and Ales Torkinton.

BURIED.

4.—John Collier of the Streethouse lane had a chyld  
buried.  
10.—Raphe sonne of John Cowp of Northbury.  
10.—A sonne of James Chorltons of Stock.  
26.—Richard Downes of Echulls had a chyld buried.

JANUARIE, 1595.

BAPTISED.

1.—Katherine daughter of Robte Morgan of Wyggon  
4.—Elizabeth daughter of Robte Rogers of Stockport.  
4.—Anne daughter of George Stanfield of Higham.  
16.—Elizabeth daughter of Robte Marsland of Stock.

BURIED.

23.—The wyfe of Hughe Rowbotham of Romley.  
24.—John Smith of Stockport alderman.

## FEBRUARIE, 1595.

## BAPTISED.

- 8.—Fraunce daughter of Thomas Tomlinson of Romiley.  
 15.—John sonne of George Cheetham of Stock.  
 20.—James sonne of James Drinkwater of Stock.  
 20.—John sonne of Raphe Taylor of Bredbury.  
 22.—George sonne of John Mosse of Heaton Norrice.  
 30.—Elizabeth daughter of Robte Brooke of Redich.

## MARRIED.

- 1.—Richard Smith and Anne Pownall.  
 8.—Thomas Shaw and Joan Clark.  
 22.—Thomas Bancroft and Ellen fallowes.  
 23.—Willm Smith and Joan Sharke.  
 26.—John Wright and Elizabeth Dand.

## BURIED.

- 11.—The wyfe of Raphe Nicholson of Heaton Norrice.  
 22.—Randle Hulme of Offerton had a chyld buried.

## MARCH, 1595.

## BAPTISED.

- 7.—Nicholas sonne of Richard Choonall of Barweek Hill.  
 7.—Lidia daughter of John Boland of Stock.  
 7.—Robte sonne of John Baguley of Redich.  
 21.—Nathaniell sonne of James flearne, of Stock.  
 21.—Thomas sonne of Raphe Nicholson of Redich.

## MARRIED.

- 21.—LAURENCE WRIGHT AND ANNE WINNINGTON WERE MARRIED THE 21ST.

The Lawrence Wright whose marriage is here recorded was the third son of Lawrence Wright, of Nantwich, and next younger brother of Thomas Wright, rector of Wilmalow 1610-1645, who in 1645 was ejected by the Parliamentarians under Colonel Duckenfield, but lived to see the Restoration in 1660. Anne Winnington was the eldest daughter of Ralph Winnington, of Offerton. Her only sister Catherine had at this time been married two years, her husband being Henry Bradshaw, of Marple. Anne died in 1617, having given birth to eleven children, and was buried at Stockport. Her husband Lawrence lived until 1649, in which year it is asserted that he married again.

## BURIED.

- 10.—The wyf of Willm Harrison of Stockport.  
 10.—Willm Cowp of Bramhall had a chyld buried.  
 15.—Robte Dideburie servante at the Goyt.  
 19.—George sonne of John Mosse of Heaton Norrice.  
 22.—Raphe Collier of Stockport.

## MARCH, 1596.

## BAPTISED.

- 23.—Katherine daughter of John Chesterson of Offerton.  
 23.—Alexander sonne of Raffe Allen of Stock.

## BURIED.

- 25.—Elizabeth wyf of Peter Kenion of Heaton Norrice.  
 29.—A daughter of Thomas Greeves of Heaton Norrice.

## APRILL, 1596.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Ales daughter of George Potter of Stock.  
 2.—Richard Brook of Brinnington had a daughter Elizabeth baptized.  
 9.—Richard sonne of Lawrence Brown of Denton.  
 11.—Anne daughter of John Lees of the Bright back.  
 11.—Katherine daughter of George Brook of Heaton Norrice.  
 11.—Robte sonne of Randle Wood of Stock.  
 12.—Randle sonne of Randle Thorniley of Stockport greave.  
 16.—Ellen daughter of Humfrey Burtenshaw of Bramhall.  
 25.—Nicholas Hulme of Lanc. had a chyld baptized.

## MARRIED.

- 17.—Carlyle Cheetham and Jane Stanley.  
 18.—Lawrence Boothe and Isabell Williamson.  
 24.—Lawrence Ashworth and Margret Collier.  
 23.—John Johnson and Elizabeth Duncalf.

## BURIED.

- 2.—Edward sonne of John Henshaw of Bramhall.  
 11.—The daughter of John Robyson of the Underbank.  
 17.—Elizabeth Bealey of Bredbury.  
 27.—Robte Mottershead of Barweek Hill.  
 27.—A chyld of Jane Henshaws of Henshaw houses.

## MAY, 1596.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—Richard sonne of James Choriton.  
 9.—Robte sonne of George Syddall of the Slade.  
 9.—Richard sonne of Henrye Hulme of Stock.  
 23.—Katherine and Margery daughters of Raphe Dickson of Redich.  
 23.—John sonne of Lawrence Davenport of Bramhall.

## MARRIED.

- 24.—George Oldham and Anne Piggot.  
 24.—Reinolde Goddard and Ellen Ashton.  
 24.—Robte Higginbothom and Jane Wood.

## BURIED.

- 25.—Ales Newton.  
 26.—Raphe Nicholson of Redich had a chyld buried.

## JUNE, 1596.

## BAPTISED.

- 4.—Robte sonne of John Birche of the parish of Manchester.  
 6.—Edward sonne of John Wright of Marple.  
 13.—Ales daughter of Willm Daniell of Stock.  
 25.—MARY THE DAUGHTER OF JOHN FRODSHAM GIFT WAS BAPTISED THE 25TH.  
 27.—Robte sonne of Lyonell Perkin of Hyde.

BURIED.

- 12.—Anne daughter of George Rowbotham of Beacom.  
14.—Ranulph sonne of Ranulph Thorniley of Romiley.  
24.—Thomas sonne of Reginolde Johnson of Brinnington.

JULIE, 1596.

BAPTISED.

- 2.—Brandon sonne of John Warren of Stock.  
3.—Willm sonne of Ottiwell Ridge of Marple baptized at Mellor.  
18.—Katherine daughter of Vincent Thomson of Bramhall.  
18.—Lidia daughter of Raphe Kenion of the parich of Manchester.

MARRIED.

- 1.—Raphe Oldham and Anne Warrington.  
18.—Henry Partington and Ellen Collier.

BURIED.

- 16.—The wyfe of Raphe Dodge of Stockport.  
18.—The wyf of George Whitticres of the bridge end.  
22.—John White the painter.  
22.—A chyld of Henry Colliers of Bredbury.

AUGUST, 1596.

BAPTISED.

- 6.—Mary daughter of Raphe Didsburye of Woodley.  
13.—Robte sonne of Edmund Hulme of Offerton.  
22.—Samuell sonne of Robte Barrett of Echulla.  
27.—BEATRICE THE DAUGHTER OF MR HILTON OF FARNEWORTH WAS BAPTIZED THE 27TH.

BURIED.

- 1.—The wyf of Thomas Thorniley of Bredbury.  
2.—John Adshead of Bramhall.  
2.—John Warren of the Churchgate.  
18.—The wyf of Edward Daniell of Stock.

SEPTEMBER, 1596.

MARRIED.

- 29.—George Kenion and Elizabeth Gefferson.

BURIED.

- 22.—The daughter of Robte Smith of Northbury.

OCTOBER, 1596.

BAPTISED.

- 4.—Willm Henshaw of Bredburye had a chyld baptized.  
8.—John Owen of the parich of Manchester had tow children baptized.  
15.—Elizabeth daughter of Ambrose Robinson of Stock.  
24.—Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Lane of Redliche.

BURIED.

- 5.—The wyfe of George Whyteley.  
6.—Richard Herod had a chyld buried.

- 11.—LAWRENCE WRIGHT OF OFFERTON HAD A CHYLD BURIED THE 11TH.

- 13.—John Owen of the parich of Manchester had a chyld buried.  
17.—Richard Harrison of Haughton had a daughter buried.  
22.—John Owen of the parich of Manchester had a chyld buried.

NOUEMBER, 1596.

BAPTISED.

- 7.—Richard Cheetham sonne of Thomas Cheetham of Woodley.  
21.—Willm sonne of Thomas Swyndells of Romiley.  
21.—Grace daughter of Edward Ashton of Werneth.  
22.—Samuell sonne of Willm Nicholson of Stockport.

MARRIED.

- 10.—Thomas Brook and Mary Newtone.  
10.—Raffe Swyndells and Ales Ecrod.  
28.—Willm Beacom *als* Johnson and Margret Ashton.

BURIED.

- 11.—Henry Thorniley of Stockport.  
20.—The wyf of James Gefferson of Bramhall.  
22.—Alex. Hulme of the Bridge end.  
28.—Edward Ryland of Haughton.

DECEMBER, 1596.

BAPTISED.

- 5.—Robte sonne of Raffe Brook of Heaton.  
5.—Margery daughter of Tho. Taylor of Levensam.  
5.—Edward sonne of Thomas Garnett of Stock.  
5.—Thomas sonne of Richard Hartley.  
12.—Willm sonne of Humffrey Davempport of Bramhall.  
19.—Nicholas sonne of Anthony Brook of Stock.

BURIED.

- 3.—Henry Hall of Hyde.  
3.—Mawde Wright of Echulla.  
10.—A pore woman dyed upon Bramhall moore was buried.  
11.—Raphe Oldham of Brynnington.  
12.—Richard Ogden of Stockport.  
20.—THE WIFE OF ROBERT DOWNES OF STOCKPORT GENT WAS BURIED THE 20TH.  
23.—An old pore man died in Lingard's Lane was buried.  
27.—Reiginold ffallowes of Bramhall.

JANUARY, 1596.

BAPTISED.

- 2.—WILLIAM THE SONNE OF HENRY BRADSHAW OF MARPLE WAS BAPTIZED THE 2TH.  
This William Bradshaw was an elder brother of Judge Bradshaw. See under date February 4, 1593-4.  
6.—John sonne of Robte Shaw of Stock.

9.—Robte sonne of Robte Vrmeston of Heaton Norries.

9.—Thomas sonne of John Oldham of Redich.

16.—Mary daughter of Ranulph Hulme of Offerton.

16.—Em daughter of John Bowerhouse *als* Moese.

21.—Nicholas sonne of Nicholas Taylor of Stock.

21.—Dorothy daughter of John Nicholson of Redich.

30.—Ellen daughter of William Smith of Offerton.

BURIED.

2.—Robte Sydebotham of Bredburye.

7.—John Christerson of Marple.

15.—A chyld of Anthony Rydgways.

15.—Robte sonne of Raphe Brook of Heaton.

16.—A child of Willm Brentnalla.

17.—The wyf of Willm Richardson of Echulls.

18.—Raffe Thorniley of Stockport Greave.

28.—Ellen daughter of Thomas Ward.

30.—George Brookshaw of Stockporte.

30.—A child of Edward Warrens of Stock shoemaker.

FEBRUARY, 1596.

BAPTISED.

4.—MARGRET THE DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM DAUENPORT OF BRAMHALL ESQUIER WAS BAPTISED THE 4TH.

6.—Margret daughter of Robte Hardeman of Stock.

11.—Ales daughter of Thomas Shaw of Northbury.

19.—John sonne of Robte Smith of Northbury.

21.—Raffe sonne of Thomas Chatham of Crookiley.

25.—Agatha daughter of Robte Bordman of the Churchgate.

27.—MARGRET THE DAUGHTER OF RI. GERARD PARSON OF STOCKPORT WAS BAPTIZED THE 27TH.

BURIED.

2.—Raphe Semester of the Bridge end.

6.—Thomas Allicock of Stock had a child buried.

8.—William Hall of Bramhall.

78.—A childe of Willm Hudsons of Brianington.

12.—A child of John Geffersons of Bramhall.

14.—Ould Ellen that was kept at Northbury was buried.

20.—The wyfe of Raphe Smith of Bramhall.

22.—The wyfe of Robte Mottershead of Barweek hill widow.

24.—Joan Higgenbotham of Bredbury.

MARCH, 1596.

BAPTISED.

6.—ANNA THE DAUGHTER OF ARTHUR STORER MINISTER OF THE WORDE AT STOCKPORT WAS BAPTISED THE 6TH.

Arthur Storer was curate of Stockport from 1594 to 1631, in which latter year he died, as recorded in the Registers of that year.

6.—John sonne of Alexander Smith of Stock.

6.—Mary daughter of John Booth of Redich.

6.—Margery daughter of Thomas Kennlon of Stock.

11.—John sonne of John Kelsall.

13.—Ales daughter of Henry Daniell of Bramhall.

20.—Marie daughter of John Hobson of Levensam.

20.—Jane daughter of Willm Sydebotham of Romiley.

20.—Anne daughter of Willm Wakefeild of Heyviley.

20.—James sonne of James Smithe of the Moore syde.

BURIED.

2.—Raffe sonne of Lawrence Hall of Bramhall.

8.—Thomas Collier of Barweek hill.

8.—Nicholas sonne of Anthony Brook of Stock.

23.—John Harrison of Denton.

MARCH, 1597.

BAPTISED.

25.—Carlyle Cheetham of Woodley had a child baptized.

28.—Ales daughter of John Jacksons.

BURIED.

25.—Jane daughter of Willm Sydebotham of Romiley.

27.—The wyfe of Willm Hudson of Brynnington.

28.—Robte Deane of Northbury had a child buried.

APRILL, 1597.

BAPTISED.

[3.—Samuell sonne of James ffearne of Stock.

10.—John soone of Thomas Bancroft of Stock.

10.—Ales daughter of Raphe Nicholson of Heaton.

10.—Margery daughter of John Moese of Heaton.

15.—Willm sonne of Willm Marsland.

15.—Thomas sonne of John Robinson of Brynnington.

17.—Joane daughter of Ranulph Darbishire of Stock.

23.—Raphe sonne of Elizabeth Taylora.

24.—A child of Reiginold Meykena.

BURIED.

2.—A child of Henry Partingtons of Heaton.

3.—The wyfe of Bernard Baguley.

9.—Miles Andrew of Haughton had a child buried.

13.—Edward Ryle of Stock.

16.—Willm fletcher of Stock had a child buried.

18.—Nicholas Worsencroft of Haughton had a child buried.

18.—John Smith a stranger dyed at Alex. Hulmes was buried.

19.—Thomas Bosson buried.

23.—OULD MRS WARREN OF THE CHURCHGATE.

23.—Hugh Willmson of Stock.

23.—John Mosse of Stock had a daughter buried.

24.—Margery Devias of Stock.

MAY, 1597.

BAPTISED.

1.—Phillipp sonne of John Cartwright of Stock.

1.—Margret daughter of Willm Thorniley.

7.—Avery sonne of Raphe Ridge of Marple.

27.—Abraham sonne of Willm Taylor of the parish of Manchester.

29.—Richard and Robte sonnes of John Leigh of Woodley.

MARRIED.

9.—Thomas Harrison and Ales Turner.  
11.—JOHN HYDE DEANE OF MOTTRAM AND ANNE HYDE WERE MARRIED THE 11TH.

Turning to Earwaker's *East Cheshire* (ii. 137) we find that John Hyde was collated to the living of Mottram-in-Longdendale June 4, 1575, by Dr Downham, Bishop of Chester, and that he held the living for over sixty years. He was twice married, first at Mottram on February 26, 1575-6, to Alice Reddich, of Mottram. She died, and was buried at Mottram, March 21, 1593-4, and on May 22, 1597 (so says Mr Earwaker) he married for his second wife Anne Hyde. It will be observed that the Stockport Registers record the event as taking place on May 11, 1597. Hyde was rural dean of Macclesfield, and as such each page of the Mottram Register transcripts are endorsed by him as "Dean of Macclesfield." The vicar died in 1637, and was buried in Mottram as is testified by the following entry in the Registers: 1636-7. 17 Martii. John Hyde, Vicar of Mottram, buried.

30.—Robte Higham and Ellen Millnes.

BURIED.

- 1.—A daughter of George Halls of the Hillgate the younger.
- 5.—A daughter of John Ryles of the Highgreave.
- 6.—George Boland buried.
- 12.—The wife of George Rowbotham of Offerton.
- 16.—The wyfe of Ryph Vawyn of Marple drowned.
- 17.—Ould Symon Hunter buried.
- 19.—Anne Tipping buried.
- 22.—The wyfe of Henrie Hall of the Hillgate.
- 23.—The wyfe of Alex Elcock of Stock.
- 23.—Henry Daniell had a child buried.
- 28.—Ellen Burdsell of Marple buried.
- 28.—A pore woman's child buried.
- 30.—Willm sonne of Willm Marsland buried.

JUNE, 1597.

12.—Margrett daughter of John Baxter of Brynnington.

BURIED.

- 9.—Alex Lees of Relich.
- 9.—A child of Ales Somest rs.
- 13.—The wyfe of John Bennetson.
- 15.—A pore child buried.
- 18.—George Andrew of Gorton.
- 20.—John Schofield of Northburie.
- 21.—Samuell sonne of James ffearne of Stockport.

Between the entries for June and July, 1597, we have the following written in large capitals, and cut off from other matter by being double ruled top and bottom.

THESE NAMES HEEREAFTER FOLLOWING WERE REGISTERED BY THOMAS SIMKIN SINCE HIS FIRST COMING TO STOCK- PORTE, VIZ.:

At the commencement of the transcription of these Registers it was stated that the first portion of the first volume was but a copy of some previous Register. This opinion has been asserted to be erroneous. The above entry, if further proof were needed, is sufficient in itself to set the matter at rest. The first volume begins in March, 1584, and ends in 1628, and is written by one man in what is termed Elizabethan court hand, and is most uniform throughout. Now Simkin did not succeed to the duties of parish clerk until this date—July, 1597—therefore the entries made by him in the parchment book from March, 1584, to June, 1597, as directed by law, had to be transcribed from some previous Register, not in accordance with the regulations issued by Lord Cromwell in 1538. Many of the pages of this earlier portion of the first volume bear out this assumption, the entries during that period containing blanks for undecipherable names, duplicate entries of the same event, transpositions, interlineations, etc., such as might be expected when copying from loose sheets of paper. As will be found, during the forty-five years that Simkin was clerk, the entries are more complete and there are fewer discrepancies. Simkin died in 1642, the following entry being made in the Registers that year:

1642. Bur. June. Thomas Symkin, the good Clarke of Stockport, who served the place there 45 years, was buried the 9th.

JULIE, 1597.

BAPTISED.

- 3.—James sonne of Laurence Browne of Denton.
- 22.—Margrett daughter of John Shepley of Hyde.
- 29.—Katherne daughter of Christopher Low of Marple.

BURIED.

- 6.—Margret daughter of Willm Nicholson of Stock.
- 8.—Robte Marslande of Stock.
- 9.—Roger Norton of Stock.
- 13.—ANNE THE WIFE OF EDWARD WARREN OF POINTON ESQUIER WAS BURIED THE 13TH.

The lady whose burial is here recorded was the second wife of Sir Edward Warren, of Poynton



and Stockport, Knight, and High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1598. For his first wife Sir Edward Warren married at Prestbury July 23, 1574, Joan, daughter of Sir Edward Fitton, of Gawsorth, Knight. Lady Anne, the second wife, was the daughter of William Davenport, of Bramhall, and was married at Prestbury October 16, 1581. The result of this marriage was five sons and six daughters. In 1598 Sir Edward Warren married for his third wife, Susanna, daughter of Sir William Booth, of Dunham Massey, and to whom was born ten sons. Sir Edward Warren died November 12, 1609, and was buried at Stockport.

15.—Ales daughter of John Jacksons of Brynnington.

20.—Raffe Rowbothom of the parish of Mottram Lengdendale.

## AUGUST, 1597.

## BAPTISED.

- 14.—Peter sonne of Alexander Mosse of Stock.  
19.—Reiginolde sonne of Robte Gee of Werneth.

## MARRIED.

- 22.—Thomas Gatley and Ellen flogge.

## BURIED.

- 1.—The wyfe of John Warren of Offerton.  
14.—The wyfe of Humffrey Wharnebye of Torkinton  
17.—Maud Brook of Poynton.

## SEPTEMBER, 1597.

## BAPTISED.

- 11.—Prudence daughter of Alexander Boswell of Stock.  
18.—Catherine daughter of Charles Lowe of Marple.  
18.—Willm sonne of Raffe Ogden of Heaton.  
18.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Collier of the Yewtree.  
23.—Richard sonne of Ranulph Hankinson of Stock.  
29.—Annie daughter of John Warren of Offerton.

## BURIED.

- 5.—WILLIAM NICHOLSON OF REDICH SCHOLEME OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLE OF STOCKPORT WAS BURIED THE 5TH.

William Nicholson here referred to was the first master of the Stockport Grammar School of whom mention is made.

- 8.—Thomas Syddall of Bramhall.  
15.—The wyfe of John Brookshaw of Bredbury.

## OCTOBER, 1597.

## BAPTISED.

- 2.—George sonne of Raphe Nicholson of Redich.  
2.—Ales daughter of Ranulph Thorniley of Romiley.  
7.—Willm sonne of Robte Handforthe of Bosson.  
7.—Ales daughter of Nicholas Elcock of Stock.  
7.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Fletcher of Didsbury.  
9.—Elizabeth daughter of John Dickenson of Redich.

- 9.—Elizabeth daughter of Henrie Baylie of Redich.  
14.—Margret daughter of Raphe Baylie of Levensham.  
16.—Willm sonne of Laurence Rowbothom of Offerton.  
18.—John sonne of John Burdeall of Marple.  
23.—Lawrence sonne of John Owen of the parish of Manchester.  
30.—Richard sonne of Willm Wynterbothom of Bredbury.  
30.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Sydebothom of Marple.

## MARRIED.

- 12.—John Harrison and Margret Swyndella.  
22.—Willm Seale and Anne Rogers.  
24.—Robte Cheadle and Elizabeth Knott.

## BURIED.

- 1.—Joan Schofield of Haughton.  
6.—A pore woman buried.  
7.—Joan daughter of Ambrose Robynson of Stock.  
8.—Katherine Smith of Brynnington.  
8.—Thomas sonne of Reginold Thorniley of Romiley.  
10.—John Cowp a pore man.  
12.—Elizabeth daughter of Ambrose Collier of Bredbury.  
19.—Joan Arderne of Brynnington wydow.  
21.—Thomas Harrison of Stock.  
22.—The wyfe of Thomas Bretland of Bramhall.  
24.—George sonne of frauncs Newton of Levensham.  
25.—John Bennetson of Romiley.  
28.—JOHN THE SONNE OF ADAM DUTTON OF LODGE GENT WAS BURIED THE 28TH.  
28.—John Bennetson of Werneth.

## NOVEMBER, 1597.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—John sonne of Thomas Nicholson of Redich.  
11.—Robte sonne of Robte Hall of Heaton.  
13.—Mary daughter of John Bradley of Redich.  
17.—Jane daughter of Richard Smith of the Mase syde.  
17.—Samuel sonne of John Boland of Stock.  
20.—ANNE DAUGHTER OF LAWRENCE WRIGHT OF OFFERTON.  
20.—Margret daughter of James Chorlton of Stock.  
25.—Ellen daughter of John Collier of Heaton.

## MARRIED.

- 13.—John Adshead and Ann Adshead.  
13.—John Willmson and Izabell Ellor.  
28.—Edward Stanley and Jane Jodrell.

## BURIED.

- 1.—Robte sonne of Robte Sheather of Stock.  
3.—Izabell Ward of Bramhall.  
10.—The wyfe of Hugh Willmson of Stock.  
10.—George Gee of Werneth.  
13.—Margerie daughter of Robte Thornley of Bredbury.  
14.—The wyfe of John Johnson of Echulla.  
15.—Margery daughter of John Mosse of Heaton.

- 15.—Henrie sonne of Thomas Hibbert of Marple.
- 16.—Elizabeth daughter of John Cleaton of Romiley.
- 18.—Margery Kempe of Stock.
- 19.—James Thorpe of Haughton.
- 19.—WILLIAM THE SONNE OF HENRIE BRADSHAW OF MARPLE WAS BURIED THE 19TH.
- 30.—Robte Thorniley of the Hallhouse.
- 30.—A pore woman dyed in Bramhall was buried.

DECEMBER, 1597.

BAPTISED.

- 18.—Dorothy daughter of John Redich of Stock.
- 18.—Henry sonne of George Charleton of Heaton.

MARRIED.

- 5.—Robte Smith and Joan Rowbothom.
- 5.—Willm Taylor and Em Johnson.
- 12.—Willm Harrison and Ales Barlow.

BURIED.

- 1.—Robte sonne of Edmund Hulme of Offerton.
- 2.—Margery Redford of Stock.
- 3.—Nicholas Hibbert of Marple.
- 7.—George Thomson of Stockport moore syde.
- 8.—The wyfe of Robte Cottrell of Adlington.
- 13.—John sonne of Roger Rocroft of Bramhall.
- 16.—The wyfe of George Thomston of Stockp more syde.
- 18.—Miles Sharshaw of Offerton.
- 18.—Willm sonne of Thomas Goddard of Marple.
- 18.—Dorothy a chyld of Ellen Bennets.
- 19.—The wyfe of John Thorniley of Hyde.
- 20.—A chyld of Willm Thornileys of Denton.
- 21.—An infant of Raph Brooks of Heaton.
- 23.—Henry Pyggott of Stock.
- 24.—Lawrence Winnington of Stock.
- 30.—Blanch Ashton of Stock.
- 30.—Tho Ward of Northbury.

JANUARY, 1597.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Raph sonne of Richard Choonall of Bredburie.
- 15.—James sonne of Thomas Willmson of Heaton.
- 20.—Ales daughter of John Grantham of Stock.
- 22.—Peter sonne of Charles Sydebotham of Werneth.
- 27.—Ellen daughter of Thomas Ouldham of Brynnington.

MARRIED.

- 23.—Raffe Wilsen and Margret Hyde.
- 24.—Reiginalde Gee and Elizabeth Ridgewaie.

BURIED.

- 7.—A pore woman died in Stock was buried.
- 10.—Richard Birkenhead of Alvanley dyed at Hawarden was buried.
- 11.—The wyfe of John Milner of Levensam.
- 13.—The wyfe of Robte Cleaton of Bredbury.
- 15.—The wyfe of Richard Pownall of Bramhall.

- 16.—The wyfe of the sayd Richard Birkenhead dyed also at Hawarden was buried.
- 17.—The wyfe of Thomas Smith of Nongreave.
- 18.—ANNE DAUGHTER OF LAWRENCE WRIGHT OF OFFERTON.
- 27.—The wyfe of Thomas Holte of Bramhall.
- 30.—Thomas Nicholson of Heaton Norres.

FEBRUARY, 1597.

BAPTISED.

- 2.—Izabell daughter of Robte Harrison.
- 2.—Roger sonne of Anthony Arderne of Stock.
- 5.—Robte sonne of Thomas Hulme of Heaton.
- 10.—Margret daughter of Humffrey Birtenshaw of Bramhall.
- 12.—Anne daughter of Peter Hey baptized.
- 17.—Margret daughter of Willm Smith of Offerton.
- 19.—Anne the chyld of Raphe Bennetsons of Bredbury.
- 19.—John sonne of John Sydebotham of Bredbury.
- 24.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Allicock of Stock.
- 26.—Olyver sonne of John Collier of the Buttresse.

MARRIED.

- 12.—Reignold Adshead and Margrett Andrew.
- 23.—MICHAELL HOLTE AND MARGHERIE LOWE WERE MARRIED THE 23TH.
- 27.—Reiginolde Mellor and Ales Hudson.

BURIED.

- 1.—The wyfe of Reginold Mellor of Brynnington.
- 2.—Margret Collier of Heaton.
- 2.—Thomas Erod of Marple.
- 12.—The wyfe of George Kennion of Marple.
- 16.—Anne daughter of Peter Hey of Stock.
- 18.—The wyfe of John Pyggott of Stock.
- 20.—George Cocke of Stock.
- 22.—Willm Brook of Heaton.
- 22.—A chyld of John Hulmes.
- 23.—The wyfe of John Smith of Stock Alderman.

MARCH, 1597.

BAPTISED.

- 3.—Margret daughter of Godffrey Hearod of Stock.
- 12.—John sonne of John Hadfield of Stock.
- 17.—Henrie sonne of Henrie Partington of Heaton.
- 17.—Willm sonne of Willm Johnson of Werneth.
- 17.—Margrett daughter of Willm Rocroft of Heaton.
- 19.—Thomas sonne of John Birch of Levensam.
- 19.—Ambrose sonne of Ambrose Collier of Bredburie.
- 24.—Elizabeth daughter of Henrie Daniell of Bramhall.
- 24.—Jane daughter of Raphe Johnson of Stock.

BURIED.

- 8.—Thomas Shaw of Hyde.
- 10.—Raffe sonne of Raphe Dickson of Stock being drowned.
- 16.—The wyfe of John Burges of Stock.
- 18.—Alex sonne of Alex Mosse of Stock.
- 21.—Robte Nicholson of Redich.

## MARCH, 1598.

## BAPTISED.

- 25.—Robte sonne of Lawrence Taylor of Torkinton.
- 26.—Mary daughter of John Baguley of Redich.
- 31.—Dyoniste daughter of John Lowe of Offerton.

## APRILL, 1598.

## BAPTISED.

- 7.—Joseph sonne of Ralph Kennion of Rishforth in Lanc.
- 7.—Margret daughter of Raphe Taylor of Bredbury.
- 9.—Hughe son of John Burges of Stockp.
- 17.—MARIE THE DAUGHTER OF AUBRYE BIRKBY OF HEMSLEY IN YORKSHIRE GENT BAPTIZED THE 17TH.
- 17.—John sonne of Willm Maraland of Werneth.
- 18.—Thomas sonne of Willm fletcher of Stock Eryed ffa.
- 23.—Margret daughter of Willm Bowker of Bramhall.

## BURIED.

- 2.—The wife of John Taylor of Stock.
- 2.—John sonne of John Adshead of Bramhall.
- 7.—Elizabeth Brookshaw of Bredburie.
- 9.—The wyfe of Thomas Bordeman of Stockp with tow children.
- 11.—Margerie Bennetson of Werneth.
- 11.—John sonne of Robte Shaw of Stockp.
- 11.—Thomas Gatley of Torkinton.
- 12.—The wyfe of Nicholas Nicholson of Redich.
- 18.—John Shuttleworth of Brynnington.
- 24.—John Potter of the Hillgate.
- 25.—The wyfe of Geffarie Ryle of Bramhall.

## MAIE, 1598.

## BAPTISED.

- 1.—Martha daughter of Robte Brook of Redich.
- 5.—Thomas Spooner of Bredburie a collier had two children baptized the one named Ranulph the other Margret.
- 5.—Ellen daughter of Lawrence Booth of Werneth.
- 5.—Raphe sonne of Thomas Stockporth of Northbury.
- 12.—John sonne of John Robinson of Stock Tanner.

## BURIED.

- 4.—Anne Hudson a pore woman who dyed in Brynnington.
- 6.—Willm Wakefield of Stock Alderman.
- 10.—Ranulph and Margret the children of Tho Spooner of Bredbury a collier.
- 11.—Ales daughter of Richolas Elcockes of Stock.
- 11.—George Hall of Stock.
- 12.—Raphe Wolfenden of Stock.
- 16.—Margret Harrison of Werneth.
- 19.—A pore boy buried.
- 19.—The wyfe of Richard Haughton of Haughten.
- 24.—Reiginolde Gee of Hyde had a chyld buried.
- 26.—John Cheetham of the Yewtree.
- 27.—Ellen Bowbotham of Redich.

## JUNE, 1598.

## BAPTISED.

- 5.—Ales daughter of Robte Rydings of Stock.
- 6.—RICHARD THE SONNE OF RICHARD GERARD PARSONS OF STOCKPORT WAS BAPTIZED THE 6TH.
- 6.—George sonne of Ellis Andcroftes of Redich.
- 11.—Thomas sonne of Thomas Holte of Bramhall.

## MARRIED.

- 25.—Robte Lees and Ales Hardie.

## BURIED.

- 1.—The wyfe of Olyver Collier of Bredbury.
- 12.—John boy of Raphe Nicholson of Heaton.
- 14.—John Walker Cooke of Portwood.
- 15.—JOSEPH DOKINFELD GENT DYED AT PORTWOOD AND WAS BURIED THE 15TH.
- 18.—The wyfe of Olyver Brook of Heaton.
- 27.—RICHARD THE SONNE OF RICHARD GERARD PARSONS OF STOCKPORT WAS BURIED THE 27TH.

## JULIE, 1598.

## BAPTISED.

- 16.—Elizabeth daughter of Ellin Tomlinson *als* Bowerhouse of Heaton.
- 21.—Ales daughter of Thomas Hobson of Levensam.
- 23.—Nathanaell sonne of Richard Hibbert of Werneth.
- 25.—Robte sonne of Robte Sheather of Stock.

## BURIED.

- 9.—Robte Sponser died in Offerton was buried.
- 12.—The wyfe of Willm Hudson of Stock.
- 18.—Raphe Taylor of the lane in the townshippes of Bredburie.
- 24.—Ales Hobson of Stock.
- 25.—John sonne of Nicholas Higgenbothom of Marple.
- 25.—The wyfe of John Rowbothom of Northbury.
- 26.—Edward Mosee of Stock fletcher.

## AUGUST, 1598.

## BAPTISED.

- 4.—George sonne of Robte Higginbothom of Marple.
- 4.—Anne daughter of George Stanfield of Werneth.
- 11.—DOROTHEE THE DAUGHTER OF HENRY BRADSHAW OF MARPLE WAS BAPTIZED THE 11TH.
- 13.—Mary daughter of John Lees of Redich.
- 15.—Elizabeth daughter of Alexander Collier of the Yewtree.
- 20.—James sonne of Henry flogge of Offerton.
- 20.—Daniell sonne of John Warren of Stock.
- 25.—Robte sonne of Thomas Oldham of Brynnington.

## MARRIED.

- 27.—Hughe Hooley and Margret Cymney.

## BURIED.

- 11.—Raphe sonne of Thomas Cheetham of Bredbury.
- 12.—Willm Tomlinson of Hyde.
- 14.—Ales daughter of Robte Meykina.
- 19.—A child of Robte Hibberts of Werneth.

- 23.—Henry Collier of Bredbury.  
23.—Robt Cheetham of Bredbury.  
23.—John sonne of Alexander Ashton of Hyde slayne  
with an horse.

SEPTEMBER, 1598.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Ellen daughter of Willm Hall of Priest feilds in  
Bramhall.  
3.—Raffe sonne of Willm Norton of Stock.  
8.—Margret daughter of Willm Ashton of Werneth.  
8.—George sonne of Raphe Didsburie of Bredbury.  
10.—Mary daughter of James ffearne of Stock.  
10.—Mary daughter of Henry Hulme of Stock.  
15.—Elizabeth daughter of Willm Ashton of Redich.  
17.—Mary daughter of John Whittaker of Northbury.  
29.—George sonne of George Lomas of Stock.

MARRIED.

- 25.—Robt Hibbert and Anne Bredburye.

BURIED.

- 1.—Jane daughter of John Darbyshire a pore laboring  
man.  
2.—Margret daughter of Willm Taylor of the lane in  
the Townshippe of Bredbury.  
11.—Margery wyfe of John Hyde of Marple.  
15.—Robt sonne of John Leigh of Bredbury.  
24.—James Pownall of Stock.

OCTOBER, 1598.

BAPTISED.

- 1.—Izabell daughter of Raphe Dickson of Stoc k.  
2.—Raphe sonne of Ottiwell Ridge of Marple.  
6.—WILLIAM THE SONNE OF ROBERT DOKENFIELE OF  
PORTWOOD ESQUIER WAS BAPTIZED THE 6TH.  
8.—Samuell sonne of Ambrose Robynson of Stock.  
8.—Edward sonn of Edward Warren of Stock shoe-  
maker  
13.—Willm sonne of John Adshead of Bramhall.  
13.—Ales daughter of Raphe Wych of Marple.  
15.—Lucy daughter of Vyncent Thomson of Bramhall.  
27.—Katherne daughter of Lawrence Davemport of  
Bramhall.

MARRIED.

- 8.—Humffrey Wharmeby and Elizabeth Johnson.  
15.—Lawrence Regbie and Margret Thoruiley.

BURIED.

- 7.—Raphe Hyde of Haughton.  
15.—The wyfe of George Hulme of Werneth.  
28.—Margret daughter of Willm Causworth of Bram-  
hall.  
31.—Raphe Wilson of Haughton buried the last day of  
thi month.

NOUEMBER, 1598.

BAPTISED.

- 3.—Margret daughter of Willm Nicholson of Stock.  
10.—Thomas sonne of Henry Bennetsons of Bredbury.

- 12.—SUSANNA THE DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM DAUENPORT  
OF BRAMHALL ESQUIER WAS BAPTISED THE 12TH.

Susanna was eleventh and youngest child of Sir  
William Davenport, of Bramhall, her mother being  
Dorothy, daughter of John Warren, of Poynton,  
Esquire. She was twice married, first at Stock-  
port, January 26, 1630-1, to Sampson Walker, of  
Stafford, gent, who being drowned was buried at  
Stockport November 9, 1631, leaving issue  
Dorothy Walker, baptised at Bramhall November  
7, 1631. Her second husband was Thomas Chet-  
ham, of Nuthurst, co. Lanc., Esquire, married at  
Bramhall April 29, 1634. He died September 3,  
1657, leaving issue William Chetham, baptised at  
Bramhall March 26, 1635.

- 24.—Ellen daughter of John Bowker of Levensam.  
26.—Catherne daughter of Thomas Bancroft of Stock.  
30.—George sonne of John Bowerhouse of Heaton.  
30.—Sara daughter of John Wynne of Stockp.

MARRIED.

- 13.—George Chorlton and Ellen Brookshaw.

BURIED.

- 25.—John Smith of Stockp cutler.  
26.—The wyfe of Thomas Bancroft of Marple.

DECEMBER, 1598.

BAPTISED.

- 8.—Anne daughter of Thomas Harrison of Werneth.  
8.—Ellis sonne of Edward Kempe of Stock.  
17.—LAURENCE THE SONNE OF LAURENCE WRIGHT OF  
OFFERTON WAS BAPTISED 17TH.  
22.—Priscilla daughter of Edmund Hulme of Offerton.  
24.—Raphe sonne of Willm Henshaw of Bredbury.  
27.—Jane daughter of George Chorlton's of Heaton  
junior.  
28.—Katherne daughter of Willm Sydebothom of  
Romiley.

MARRIED.

- 10.—Thomas Collier and Anne Rocroft.

BURIED.

- 4.—The wyf of James Downes of Echulla.  
5.—James Wharneby of Torkinton.  
10.—The wyf of Gefferie Bordman of the parish of  
Eccles.  
12.—Alex Collier of Stock.  
14.—George sonne of Edward Hooley of Northbury.  
14.—John sonne of Reiginolde Gee of Werneth.  
21.—Margret daughter of Willm Nicholson of Stockp.  
22.—THE WYFE OF JOHN TRAFFORD OF CHOURTON GENT  
WAS BURIED THE 22TH.  
22.—The wyf of Reiginolde Johnson of Echulla.  
26.—Izabell daughter of Raphe Dickson of Stockp.

Didsbury.

E. W. BULKELEY.











